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# WAITING FOR ANSWERS

Ernie Crey, whose sister's DNA was found at the Pickton farm, poses for a photo in Richmond on Thursday. Crey, along with the other families of murdered women, hopes recommendations from the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry can bring about real change when the report is made public next week. Story, page 6. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

## Testing tweak helps catch HIV earlier

Under new hospital policy, staff offer HIV test to anyone requiring blood work PAGE 10

## Keep those forks handy for some pi

In the fashion of 12-12-12, math enthusiasts are now looking ahead to once-in-a-lifetime date on March 14, 2015 PAGE 10

## Natural gas is to B.C. what oilsands are to Alberta, Clark declares

Premier wants to transform economy with liquefied fuel PAGE 8

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Facebook photo of Matthew Sweet-Grant, co-accused of lighting an 18-year-old man on fire and filming the incident. FACEBOOK.COM

# Kelowna teen set on fire and filmed

**Partygoers charged.**
'Prank' leaves 18-year-old with severe burns

EMILY JACKSON
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A violent twist on a house-party prank left a Kelowna teen suffering from second- and third-degree burns and two fellow partygoers charged with aggravated assault.

The 18-year-old man had fallen asleep on the kitchen floor in the early-morning hours of Dec. 8 when one man poured liquid on his back and lit him on fire, according to Kelowna RCMP.

Another man stood by and filmed the incident.

Kelowna residents Matthew Sweet-Grant, 20, and Joshua McWhirter, 18, were arrested and charged with aggravated assault.

Police believe this isn't the first time that one of the accused has lit someone incapacitated by drugs or alcohol on fire, Const. Kris Clark said. It's unclear how many times the accused has allegedly lit someone on fire, how severe the injuries were or whether any alleged previous incidents were filmed.

"Fire is inherently dangerous and unpredictable," Clark said. "Even if it's intended to be a prank, it's not a prank."

The victim remains in hospital recovering from severe burns to most of his back. The incident occurred at the residence of one of the accused.

**Quoted**

**"People see this as entertainment that needs to be shared, when really it's not."**
Social-media specialist Dave Teixeira

Police don't know whether the video of the assault was posted online, but said the man videotaping is charged as a party to the offence.

"It was allowing an offence to continue when the right thing to do is say, 'Hey, we shouldn't do this,'" Clark said.

Filming the crime mimics the "Jackass culture," social-media specialist Dave Teixeira said, referring to the popular TV and movie franchise.

"You see on the show these guys hurting themselves, but they also set the other cast members up to be hurt," Teixeira said. "People see this as entertainment that needs to be shared, when really it's not."

Even if the video wasn't posted online, the incident reminded Teixeira of the alleged gang rape in Pitt Meadows.

"All it takes is one person to start forwarding it out and then there it is for the rest of time online," he said. "Especially kids don't understand what permanent means."

Sweet-Grant and McWhirter remained in custody and appeared in court Thursday.

**Newsmakers**

## Have your say: Vote for the top stories of 2012

'Tis the season for reflection, and Metro wants your help selecting the biggest local, national and international stories of the year.

Were you captivated by Kate Middleton's pregnancy, infuriated by the federal government's plan to spend $45 billion on F-35s, or riveted by the rivalry between Premier Christy Clark and Adrian Dix?

All next week, reporters will bring you compelling recaps of their favourite stories and will encourage you to vote in Metro's online poll. The results will be published Dec. 21. METRO

**Exclusively online**

Head to metronews.ca to have your say before next Thursday.

**Driving without due care**

## RCMP officer pleads guilty in fatal crash

An RCMP officer has pleaded guilty in a deadly crash that claimed the life of a 20-year-old man in B.C.'s Fraser Valley last year.

Const. Jordan Braid admitted to driving without due care and attention in Chilliwack court on Wednesday, while a charge of dangerous driving causing death was stayed.

He has been fined a total of $1,725, including a $225 victim-fine surcharge.

Braid was on duty in July 2011 and driving an RCMP vehicle when he crashed head-on into a car driven by Steve Genberg in Agassiz, B.C.

Braid now faces an internal RCMP review of his conduct. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Family grieves mother killed in Dec. 2 hit-and-run

**Left daughter behind.** Leonida Tumanda was killed after being struck at East 43rd and Prince Edward Street as she was walking home from work

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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The husband of hit-and-run victim Leonida Tumanda says he's worried about the future of his youngest daughter.

Nilo Tumanda's main concern is finding someone to help care for his four-year-old daughter Anessa when he goes back to work.

"She also still doesn't understand when I tried to explain that her mother is gone," Tumanda said Thursday. "She seems to understand, but after a while she'll ask again, 'When will she come back?'"

He also hopes that the responsible person comes forward so their family can get closure.

The 43-year-old mother was struck at East 43rd and Prince Edward Street on the night of Dec. 2. Police investigation is still ongoing.

The couple met at a friend's birthday party and wed in 2007.

**Quoted**

**"She drew a picture of circles with a line, so it looks like it's crying, so she could give it to her mom to make her mom happy."**

**Leonida's husband, Nilo,** explaining the special tribute his daughter paid her mom during the public viewing on Wednesday

The victim's father, Epitacio Jimenez, arrived from the Philippines a few days after the incident.

Jimenez said Tumanda — the second youngest of seven children — was a very caring daughter, who texted or called almost every day to check in and sent money to help her family back home.

"This is two times now that I've been given a very big burden and hardship to bear," Jimenez said through an interpreter. "We are asking for justice."

His wife passed away in October.

A trust fund has been set up for the family at TD Bank. The branch number is 9466 and the account number is 6345314.

**Online**

For more local news, visit metronews.ca.

Epitacio Jimenez, the father of hit-and-run victim Leonida Tumanda, wants justice for his daughter. Tumanda was killed after being struck Dec. 2 at East 43rd and Prince Edward Street as she was walking home from work.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

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**Desperate for answers**

**"We have to seek the truth and get the truth about what went on with my sister."**

**Lilliane Beaudoin** on Oct. 19, the 10-year anniversary of Dianne Rock's disappearance

**Fateful decision**

**"I never came to know why these charges were stayed.... Had she died, as morbid a thought as it is, we probably would have had a slam-dunk murder conviction without her testimony."**

**Det. Const. Lori Shenher of the Vancouver police** on the decision to stay charges against Pickton in 1998 because prosecutors believed the victim was an unreliable witness

**Evil force**

**"It was sort of like this dark force out there. We could feel this evil force that was swallowing up all these women but we couldn't figure out what it was."**

**WISH drop-in centre's Elaine Allan** on the fear hanging over the Downtown Eastside in 1998

**Epic failure**

**"The evidence will show ... the police investigation as a whole was nothing short of an epic failure."**

**Mark Skwarok, lawyer for former VPD investigator Kim Rossmo**

**Top suspect**

**"There was never any question from the VPD missing-women review team that he was always rated No. 1 on the list."**

**Vancouver police deputy chief Doug LePard** on the department's opinion of Robert Pickton in 1999

**Disappointment**

**"It is with the greatest regret that I must deliver the unanimous message from our clients that this pubic inquiry — from their perspective — has been almost a complete failure.**

**Cameron Ward, lawyer for the families of the murdered women,** during his closing submission at the inquiry

Ernie Crey is eagerly awaiting the findings of Wally Oppal's Missing Women Commission of Inquiry report. His sister's DNA was found on Robert Pickton's farm, and he believes police allowed Pickton to repeatedly "slip through their hands." JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

# Time for change

## Missing Women Commission of Inquiry.

Families of Robert Pickton's victims hope report will bring them some comfort

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All eyes will be on Wally Oppal as he presents his findings and recommendations from the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry to the public Monday.

But few will be looking on as intently as Ernie Crey and the other families of missing and murdered women — victims of serial killer Robert Pickton — who have endured years of pain and sat through the much-criticized and lambasted inquiry.

Oppal, the former attorney general, said his report represents "an opportunity to make real change in British Columbia."

For the families, it offers an opportunity for authorities to ensure the horrific loss of life they suffered won't be in vain.

Doubts exist.

More than a dozen organizations boycotted the inquiry after the province refused legal funding to all except immediate family.

Key witnesses involved in the investigation weren't called, or weren't cross-examined, as the authors of departmental reviews years after the fact ate up valuable time.

Despite the clouds hanging over the inquiry, Crey remains hopeful.

He wants change. He needs it.

"Police allowed this guy to repeatedly slip through their hands," said Crey. "Had they been better co-ordinated, they would have nabbed him much sooner."

His sister, Dawn Crey, whose DNA was found on Pickton's farm, may still be alive if they had.

When it came to pointing out how Vancouver police and the RCMP botched the case, Crey said the inquiry was a success.

The big question is whether Oppal will dare go beyond his terms of reference and tackle issues like sex-worker safety, poverty in the Downtown Eastside and the systemic challenges faced by aboriginals.

"I'm not sure the commissioner was equipped with the right flippers for such deep waters," said Jason Gratl, an independent lawyer representing the Downtown Eastside at the inquiry.

Gratl said the inquiry rushed through the existing social issues that came to light, particularly early testimony from experts on the discrimination and social exclusion faced by sex-trade workers.

Kate Gibson, of the WISH drop-in centre for sex-trade workers, also doesn't expect the recommendations to venture far into the societal realm.

While police policies have evolved since Pickton's arrest, the conditions faced by women in the sex trade haven't, she said.

"Pickton was just one person," she said. "The level of violence perpetrated against sex workers today is just as terrible. We receive almost daily reports of violence and abuse. I don't think things have changed."

Crey said that if the recommendations can't facilitate change, he hopes newfound public awareness of those issues can.

The inquiry "exposed the circumstances faced by women to hundreds of thousands of British Columbians," he said. "We can't overlook these folks. The Downtown Eastside is a living testament these people are still being neglected."

Kate Gibson, of WISH drop-in centre, doesn't expect the report will get into issues like discrimination against sex workers. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

**Oppal's boundaries**

**Commissioner Wally Oppal is bound to the following terms of reference.**

- Make findings into the conduct of the missing-women investigations between Jan. 23, 1997, and Feb. 5, 2002.
- Make findings into the decision of the Criminal Justice Branch on Jan. 27, 1998, to stay charges against Robert Pickton of attempted murder, assault with a weapon, forcible confinement and aggravated assault.

Wally Oppal THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

- Recommend changes to the investigation of missing women and suspected multiple homicides.

**Long road to this point**

**It's been almost 16 years since a sex worker told police about her narrow escape from Robert Pickton's farm after he stabbed her with a knife and tried to handcuff her.**

- **March 23, 1997.** Robert Pickton assaults a sex-trade worker at his farm, but she survives. He is later charged with attempted murder, assault with a weapon, forcible confinement and aggravated assault.
- **Jan. 27, 1998.** Criminal Justice Branch enters a stay of proceedings on charges against Pickton for the 1997 incident.
- **Feb. 5, 2002.** Pickton is arrested on warrant for a firearm violation. Personal belongings of missing women are found on his property.
- **Feb. 22, 2002.** Pickton is arrested and charged with two counts of first-degree murder. He eventually faced 26 counts of murder.
- **Jan. 22, 2007.** Pickton's trial begins in B.C. Supreme Court on six counts of first-degree murder.
- **Dec. 9, 2007.** Jury finds Pickton guilty on six counts of second-degree murder.
- **Aug. 4, 2010.** Crown drops 20 outstanding murder charges against Pickton after his first conviction is upheld in B.C. Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada.
- **Sept. 27, 2010.** Missing Women Commission of Inquiry is ordered by the B.C. government.
- **Oct. 11, 2011.** Evidentiary hearings begin.
- **March 5, 2012.** Robyn Gervais, lawyer for aboriginal interests, expresses frustration at inquiry and quits. Inquiry is placed on hold as replacements are found.
- **June 6, 2012.** Hearings come to an end.
- **Nov. 22, 2012.** Commissioner Wally Oppal submits his final report to the provincial government.
- **Dec. 17, 2012.** Oppal's report and recommendations to be made public.

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# Gas-export plans on same scale as Alberta's oilsands: Clark

**Liquefied natural gas.** Demand for natural resource has doubled over the last decade

Premier Christy Clark says her government's plan to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Asia is British Columbia's economic equivalent to Alberta's oilsands.

Clark said B.C.'s LNG-development ambitions will transform the economy, but the province must act quickly before the opportunity evaporates like gas into the atmosphere.

Clark, who has spent the last year describing her "bold" and "audacious" plan to turn B.C. into Canada's job-creation engine, said British Columbians will still be cashing in on the benefits of LNG exports 50 years from now.

"Think about it in these terms: what oil has been to Alberta since the 1970s-80s is what LNG is going to be for British Columbia, nothing less than that," said Clark.

"Energy output from LNG will likely be as big as the total energy output today from the oilsands," she said.

Experts in the LNG industry do not completely agree with Clark's Alberta-oilsands comparison, but are on board in describing the opportunity as monumental and one that should be fast-tracked.

"This is huge," said Ron Loberec, Deloitte's Canadian resources spokesman. "It's a no-brainer. Australia is going to make tens of billions of dollars out of these gas contracts. You've got to say yes."

Recent Alberta government statistics indicate royalties from the oilsands were $3.7 billion in 2010-2011.

International LNG development expert Zoher Meratla, whose Whistler, B.C., company, CDS Research Ltd., has been in the LNG industry for 35 years, said Clark is not off base when she puts B.C.'s LNG opportunities on the same scale as Alberta's oilsands.

"Economically, it's similar to the oilsands," said Meratla, who has worked on LNG projects in Australia, Africa, the Middle East, Russia and Norway. "It's exactly in the same league, and we have the advantage that we don't carry the environmental burden."

Clark's jobs plan, introduced in September 2011, said global trade in LNG — natural gas that is cooled to the point where it can be loaded onto tankers — doubled over the last decade and is expected to increase by another 50 per cent by 2020.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Possible benefits**

**About 151,000 Albertans were employed in the oil-and-gas extraction and mining sectors in 2011, about one of every 14 jobs in the province.**

B.C. Premier Christy Clark answers questions in the B.C. legislature building in Victoria on Tuesday. Clark is confident that the value of B.C.'s liquefied-natural-gas resources are on par with Alberta's oilsands. CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS


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## March 14. Full of 12-12-12, or is there room for Pi?

Now that the 12-12-12 hype is over, there's another once-in-a-century date you can look forward to.

Mathematicians, teachers, students and number lovers all over the world celebrate Pi Day on March 14. But they're sure to plan something extra special on March 14, 2015 at 9:26:53 as the numerical date represents the first seven digits of pi, 3.141592653.

For the numerically challenged, pi is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter.

Carl Schwarz, a Simon Fraser University professor of statistics and actuarial science, said we would only see this date once in our lifetime as the next one will happen in 2115.

"There's nothing mysterious or ominous about (the date). It's just a coincidence," he said Thursday. "It's just an attempt by people in mathematical sciences to show that we're fun-living guys and girls."

"We're not just boring people, we do have fun and we like other people to like our subject," he added.

Schwarz said pi is one of the first irrational numbers that has intrigued people throughout time. "When the Greeks discovered these irrational numbers, they were petrified saying here are numbers which cannot be expressed in simple fractions," he said.

Since the rare date is not for another three years, Schwarz said they'll have plenty of time to prepare at SFU.

"We'll probably have extra special pies or maybe larger pies than normal," he said.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

**Pi Day**

- In 2009, the United States House of Representatives supported the designation of Pi Day.

## Website. Human-rights complaint launched against Steelworkers union

A Chinese miner employed to work in a controversial northern British Columbia coal mine has launched a human-rights complaint against the United Steelworkers Union.

Huizhi Li, who works at HD Mining's Murray River project in northern B.C., has sent a letter to the Canadian Human Rights Commission that says leaflets and the content on the union's website are likely to create contempt for Chinese people.

His letter to the commission says information posted to the union's website alleges Chinese miners will work for reduced wages and in substandard conditions, which denies Canadians opportunity to those jobs.

Steve Hunt, the union's western Canadian director, says the accusation is bizarre, because his union has been fighting for workers' rights.

Hunt points out the letter was written on HD Mining letterhead, and he says the union knew it would only be a matter of time before the company made racial accusations.

Two other unions have been in Federal Court challenging the company's plan to bring in 201 Chinese miners as temporary foreign workers to work at the proposed underground coal mine, located near Tumbler Ridge. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Intended victim not hurt**

### Richmond IKEA shooting targeted: RCMP

The RCMP say the intended victim of a shooting in the parkade of the Richmond IKEA store was known to police and was targeted in the attack.

But Cpl. Sherrdean Turley says Tuesday's shooting was not gang-related.

The intended victim was not harmed in the attack, which Turley calls appalling given the danger to public safety in such a location.

Police are looking for a suspect who fled the store in a dark green domestic minivan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**2009 stabbing**

### Court rejects appeal for man who killed wife

The B.C. Court of Appeal has rejected an appeal from a Surrey man who killed his wife by stabbing her 126 times.

Sixty-nine-year-old Maria Catroppa was killed in 2009 by Sebastiano Damin, who was 75 years old at the time and said he was depressed over his wife's threat to have him removed from the house because of his failing health.

Although he admitted to manslaughter, a judge convicted him of second-degree murder. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nancy Chow, left, HIV-testing-team nurse educator, at Vancouver General Hospital. A yearlong pilot project saw Vancouver hospitals offering an HIV test to anyone needing blood tests upon admission. CONTRIBUTED

# In-hospital HIV-test policy helps catch disease earlier

**Pilot project.**
More than 30 people were diagnosed in yearlong span, about a third of whom old system likely would have missed: Doctor

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

With an estimated 3,500 people in B.C. unknowingly infected with HIV, doctors and nurses knew they had to tweak testing procedures to catch the virus earlier.

Instead of only testing patients deemed "at risk," namely intravenous drug users, Vancouver hospitals offered an HIV test to anyone needing blood tests upon admission in a yearlong pilot project.

"You have to look at this as I have a clinical opportunity to offer a test to someone, a test that can save their lives," said Dr. Reka Gustafson, Vancouver Coastal Health's medical director of communicable disease control. "They're in a hospital, they're getting a blood test anyway."

More than 30 people were diagnosed in the year, about a third of whom probably would have been missed under the old system, Gustafson said.

"It's not that testing purely on risk misses everyone, but it does miss a substantial number of people," she said.

Early detection is crucial because treatment is more effective the sooner it begins — it can extend life by years — and people who are aware they have HIV can take steps to avoid spreading it to their partners.

An HIV test costs $10 when done at the same time as a blood test. Ninety-four per cent of those offered the test said yes upon admission to St. Paul's, Vancouver General, Mount Saint Joseph and UBC hospitals. About 5,000 took the test overall.

"What we've learned from this, the public in general understands why an HIV test is important," Gustafson said.

Hospitals will continue to offer the test to anyone requiring blood work due to the project's success.

The program will eventually be rolled out across the province.

This man is wanted in a string of "brazen" robberies in Vancouver, Burnaby, West Vancouver and North Vancouver. CONTRIBUTED

## Police search for suspect in 'brazen' grocery-store robberies

Police fear the suspect believed to be responsible for a string of "brazen" grocery-store robberies around Metro Vancouver might get more violent.

The man has allegedly robbed eight stores in the Vancouver area since March 2012, Vancouver police said Thursday.

In six cases, the victims were held at gunpoint.

"The level of violence in these robberies appears to be escalating," Det. Const. Joe Danieli said. "We are concerned for the safety of the public and want to see this man arrested before someone gets hurt."

Described as a white, 60-year-old, heavy-built man with short grey hair, the five-foot-10 suspect wore a baseball hat and dark sunglasses during the robberies. He drove off in a black 2006 to 2010 Ford Explorer with black wheels.

He most recently robbed a North Vancouver Toy-"R"-Us at gunpoint when it was filled with holiday shoppers on Dec. 1.

He also robbed a West Vancouver Safeway, a North Vancouver Supervalu, a Vancouver Extra Foods, two Choices Markets in Burnaby and Vancouver, a Vancouver IGA Market and a locally run grocery store on Lonsdale Avenue.

The robberies all took place between 5:40 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

Police ask anyone who sees the man or his vehicle not to approach and to call 911 immediately.

Police ask anyone with information who has not yet spoken to police to call the Vancouver police at 604-717-3200 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

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# Mayor stands with 136 First Nations against pipeline

**Northern Gateway.** Mayor proclaims Dec. 13 as Save the Fraser Declaration Day

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

First Nations leaders teamed up with Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson Thursday to commemorate the third anniversary of the signing of the Save the Fraser Declaration, banning any new oil pipelines or tankers from crossing B.C.

In a ceremony at the Hyatt in Vancouver, three more First Nations added their signatures to the ban — an indigenous law they contend is valid because it invokes rights that are entrenched in their ancestral laws, Constitutional rights, and international law. That brought the total number of signatories to 136.

When a question was asked about Premier Christy Clark's five criteria for supporting any new heavy oil pipelines, Chief John Ridsdale of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation, dressed in full regalia, stepped up to the mic.

"The five criteria that were put out were not put out by the First Nations," he said. "We have one: It's called the future. Elected officials know what their future is and listen to the people that vote for them. That's their criteria. Our current government isn't doing that."

Mayor Robertson proclaimed Dec. 13 Save the Fraser Declaration Day in Vancouver.

When challenged by a reporter about the potential economic benefits that could stem from the megaprojects, Robertson said B.C.'s economy has "zero dependence" on them going forward.

"We believe there needs to be sanity here that respects the successful economy we are building here, and does not put that at risk nor does it put future generations at risk," he said.

"How many more typhoons in the Philippines, hurricanes in New York do we need to witness to understand that over-exploitation of fossil fuels is seriously impacting a vital future for us? These projects are clearly part of a future that is frightening and unsustainable."

Gerald Amos of the Haisla First Nation said the aboriginal communities that have signed the declaration will oppose Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline and Kinder Morgan's proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion by "any and all means."

Federal environmental hearings on the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline are ongoing. Hearings will be held for the proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion once Kinder Morgan files its facilities application late next year.

Chief John Ridsdale of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation attends a signing ceremony in Vancouver on Thursday on the anniversary of the Save the Fraser Declaration. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Butcher's Choice

## Burgers recalled over E. coli cases

Four cases of E. coli infection have prompted a recall of frozen hamburgers across the country.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Loblaw Companies Ltd. are warning the public to avoid certain Butcher's Choice Garlic Peppercorn Beef Burgers because of possible contamination.

The affected product is sold frozen in 1.13-kilogram packages with a best-before date of March 3.

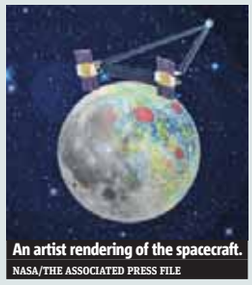
Public Health officials notified the CFIA on Dec. 5 that the E.coli cases could possibly be linked to a food source, which prompted the investigation into the meat. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ebb and Flow

## NASA spacecraft to crash into moon

Twin NASA spacecraft will crash into the lunar surface next week after a successful mission mapping the moon's gravity.

They're aiming for a mountain that's far away from the Apollo landing sites. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



An artist rendering of the spacecraft.
NASA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Oregon slayings

## Mall shooter's act a shock to family

To police and witnesses, Jacob Tyler Roberts was a gunman on a mission, firing a semiautomatic rifle as he stalked through a U.S. mall, killing two people and seriously injuring another before killing himself. To shocked friends and family, he was just Jake, an easygoing 22-year-old who liked video games and talked about moving to Hawaii.

"Jake was never the violent type," Roberts' ex-girlfriend, Hannah Patricia Sansburn, told ABC News. "His main goal was to make you laugh, smile, make you feel comfortable. You can't reconcile the differences." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Alleged plot to kill Bieber foiled at Canadian border

**Wrong turn.** Police say alleged would-be assassins arrived at the border by mistake, were arrested, then betrayed

A plot to kill Justin Bieber, allegedly masterminded by a 45-year-old prisoner obsessed with the star, was derailed when the accused would-be assassins accidentally ended up at the Canadian border, according to court documents.

Dana Martin, serving two life sentences in a New Mexico prison for the killing of a 15-year-old girl, told police he had hatched the scheme after Bieber never returned his messages.

Police recounted in an affidavit that Martin, who has a tattoo of Bieber on his leg, told them the sleight was partly why he dreamt up the plot.

"In the end, what Mr. Martin stated he was seeking was a measure of notoriety," police wrote.

Bieber was not the only target in the alleged conspiracy — police say two men Martin hired were also told to kill Bieber's bodyguard and two people unconnected to the star.

Justin Bieber at Z100's Jingle Ball in New York last Friday.
EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The men Martin allegedly had carrying out his plot were to use pruning shears to cut off the testicles of the first two victims in Vermont, kill them, then travel to New York, kill the bodyguard and abduct and kill Bieber, Martin told police.

Martin said he drew Mark Staake, 41, into his plot when they met in prison this year with claims he had a lot of money, a hide-out and gang connections.

Staake brought his 23-year-old nephew, Tanner Ruane, into the scheme, Martin told investigators.

Staake was released on probation at the end of October. The murder was to take place in New York at the end of November, according to the affidavit, when Bieber was there for a concert.

The team arrived in Vermont on Nov. 19 but realized on the highway they were headed to the Canadian border, according to the affidavit. They missed the last exit before the border and turned around to join the cars entering the Highgate Springs, Vt., point of entry, police said.

The U.S. border agent found Staake had an outstanding probation violation warrant and he was arrested.

Martin and Ruane spoke on the phone later that day, and when Ruane told Martin that Staake had been arrested, Martin called off the plot. In the phone call, recorded by authorities, Ruane expressed disappointment at the decision, saying they had found one of the victims' homes.

Martin told his story to police the next morning and Ruane was arrested with a pair of pruning shears and information on the locations of the first two intended victims, police wrote. New York State Police said Thursday that a "hand-written drawing of a depiction of Justin Bieber" was also found in the vehicle.

Staake and Ruane were arrested on charges of two counts each of conspiracy to commit murder and two counts each of conspiracy to commit aggravated battery. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dana Martin LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mark Staake VERMONT STATE POLICE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tanner Ruane NEW YORK STATE POLICE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Canadians find cancer can go 'dormant'

In a major breakthrough that will change the way cancer is studied and treated in the future, Toronto scientists have discovered a key reason why many tumours may return after chemotherapy.

In a new study, researchers at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre have shown that some of the cells that drive tumour growth hide from common chemotherapy drugs by going "dormant" — reigniting the disease when they awaken after treatments end.

"That's where this paper lies is to begin to add more depth (and) complexity to why cancers come back, why they recur," says renowned stem-cell scientist John Dick, whose paper was released Thursday by the journal Science.

"This will stimulate a lot of activity," says Dick, the study's senior author.

Luba Slatkovska, head of research with Canadian Cancer Society's Ontario division, agrees, saying the discovery represents a paradigm shift for research into the disease.

"John Dick is one of those researchers who is really changing the way we think about cancer, and this is another example," Slatkovska says.

"We think that it's going to become one of the new hot topics … in cancer research," she says.

Toronto-based researchers have discovered a new way cancer recurs.
BECKY SHINK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Dick, also a molecular geneticist at the University of Toronto, says the newly discovered dormant cells have precisely the same genetic mutations as those active ones that drove the original tumour to begin with.

Cancers occur when genetic mutations to a cell's DNA cause them to replicate in an out-of-control fashion.

And it was assumed, Dick says, that cancers returned after chemotherapy because of subsequent genetic mutations that made them resistant to the drugs being used against the original tumours.

"And that is certainly true in many cases," he says.

But the discovery of the genetically-identical dormant cells shows that other forces are at play in cancer recurrence and that these non-genetic forces must now command the attention of the oncology community.

Dick says that along with cancer cells, tumours contain a number of normal tissues, including blood vessels and immune system agents.

"And it appears that tumour cells can lie in proximity to these non-tumour cells and that can influence their behaviour," he says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Royal hoax. Details emerge on nurse's apparent suicide

A nurse was found hanging in her room three days after she had been duped by a hoax call from Australian DJs about the pregnant Duchess of Cambridge, a U.K. inquest was told Thursday. The case is being treated as an apparent suicide.

Coroner's officer Lynda Martindill said nurse Jacintha Saldanha was discovered hanging by a scarf from a wardrobe in her nurses' quarters Friday by a colleague and a member of security staff at London's King Edward VII Hospital.

Martindill said an attempt to revive Saldanha failed.

Police detective chief inspector James Harman said Saldanha, 46, also had injuries to her wrists.

He told the inquest at Westminster Coroner's Court that two notes were found at the scene and another was found among Saldanha's belongings. He said there were no suspicious circumstances, meaning nobody else was involved in Saldanha's death.

Harman said police were examining the notes, interviewing the nurse's friends, family and colleagues and looking at emails and phone calls to establish what led to her death.

He also said detectives would be contacting police in the Australian state of New South Wales to collect "relevant evidence."

Saldanha answered the phone last week when two Australian disc jockeys called seeking information about the former Kate Middleton, who was being treated for severe morning sickness. The DJs impersonated Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles, and Saldanha was tricked into transferring the call to another nurse, who revealed private details about the duchess' condition.

Saldanha, who was born in India, lived in Bristol in southwestern England with her husband and two teenage children. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Russia admits Assad could fall

Boys attend class in a city under control of the Free Syrian Army in Aleppo province, Syria. MANU BRABO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Allies.** Russia won't say whether it will change its pro-Syria stance at UN Security Council

Syria's most powerful ally and protector, Russia, began positioning itself Thursday for the fall of President Bashar Assad, saying for the first time that rebels might overthrow him and preparing to evacuate thousands of Russian citizens from the country.

The head of NATO echoed the Russian assessment, saying the Syrian government is near collapse following a nearly two-year conflict that has killed more than 40,000 people and threatened to ignite the Middle East. Assad appears to be running out of options, with insurgents at the gates of the capital and the country fracturing under the weight of a devastating civil war.

"An opposition victory can't be excluded, unfortunately, but it's necessary to look at the facts: There is a trend for the government to progressively lose control over an increasing part of the territory," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov, Moscow's Middle East envoy, said during hearings at a Kremlin advisory body.

Still, Bogdanov gave no immediate signal that Russia would change its pro-Syria stance at the UN Security Council, where Moscow has shielded Damascus from world sanctions.

Russia's acknowledgment that Assad could lose the fight is an embarrassing blow to the regime, which describes the rebels as terrorists sent from abroad with no popular support. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Syrian ties**

- **Russia has sold Syria billions of dollars worth of weapons**
- The Russians also oppose a world order dominated by the United States, and are keen to avoid a repeat of last year's NATO air campaign that led to the ouster of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, a former ally of Moscow.

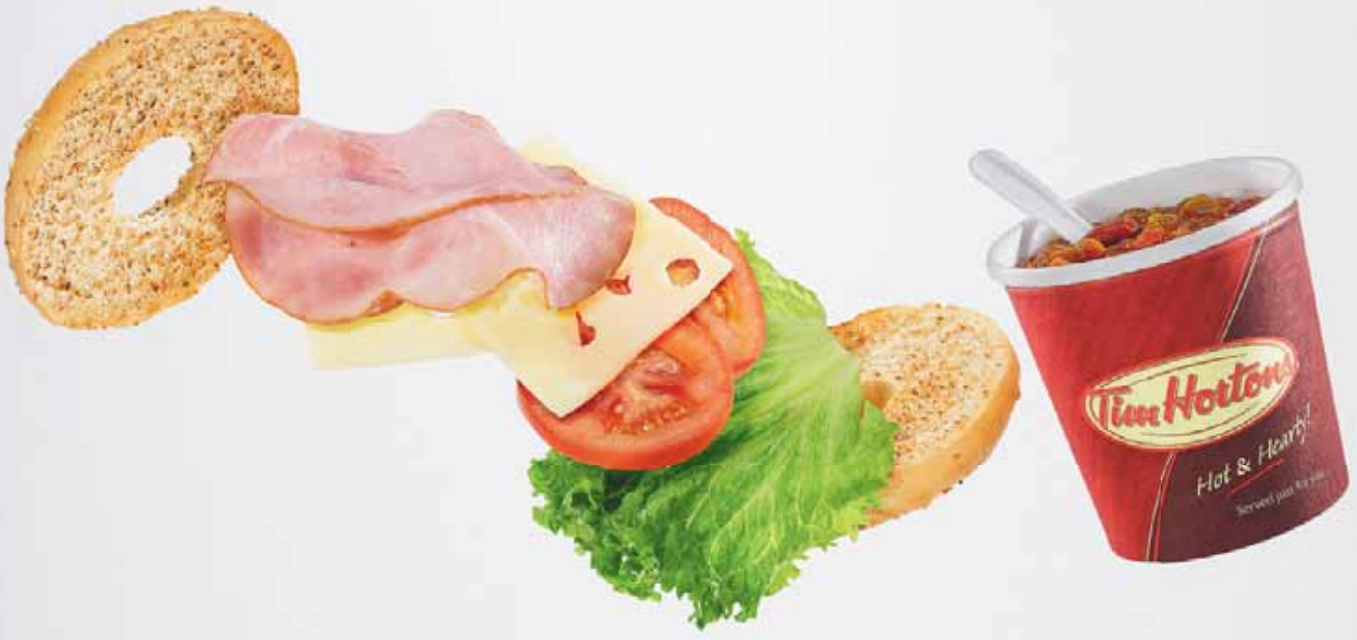
# Brawl breaks out in Ukrainian parliament

Ukraine's newly-elected parliament on Thursday approved two presidential allies for the posts of prime minister and parliament speaker, but the vote was nearly overshadowed by a violent brawl between government supporters and opposition lawmakers.

The Party of Regions led by President Viktor Yanukovych and its allies secured a majority in the Verkhovna Rada following an October election condemned as unfair by the West. But three opposition parties made a strong showing and vowed to challenge Yanukovych's grip on power. Some took that literally. For the second day of the new parliament's work, fists flew as opposition lawmakers chanted "Shame! Shame!" and "No to defectors!"

Shortly after parliament began its work Thursday morning, opposition lawmakers swarmed the parliament's podium and a fight erupted with pro-government legislators. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawmakers fight around the rostrum during the first session of Ukraine's newly-elected parliament on Thursday. SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Const. Alvin Pennick, in the U.K., writes inside a Christmas card. METRO WORLD NEWS

# Christmas card crime-fighting raises eyebrows

**U.K.** Metro finds little support for 'strange' police strategy on streets of violent London borough

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News in London

Police Const. Alvin Pennick takes a moment to jot down his thoughts in the snow-speckled Christmas card. "If you threaten another with a knife you will serve a mandatory sentence of minimum six months in prison," the message reads.

More than 200 suspected gang members are receiving these greetings from the police in Tower Hamlets in east London. The area has among the highest violent-crime rates in the U.K. capital, with dozens of organized gangs, and was the scene of fierce clashes during the 2011 riots.

"We want a safe Christmas and this is a warning, but we are also reaching out to those who want to turn their lives around," Caroline Gustavina of the Tower Hamlets Gang Unit, who launched the project, told Metro. "We can support people into work or education and if one person wants to live differently that's a fantastic result."

The card carries a hotline number for recipients to call, but Gustavina admits that there have only been abusive calls so far. This is not a surprise to people on the other side of the divide.

Greetings from U.K. police to suspected gang members. METRO WORLD NEWS

"It won't make a difference, people think it's a joke and don't read it," Stephen Ita, former gang member and youth worker with the XLP charity, told Metro. "Building engagement is not short-term — the police do some great work in the community but this isn't it."

A spokesman for the Connexions outreach program questioned the police's cultural awareness: "Since many of the gang members in Tower Hamlets are from the Bangladeshi Muslim community, a Christmas card is not the best message."

Local businessman Mohammed Shaed at the area's market said, "Gangs are always stealing here in big groups, but when they come the police are never here. This card idea is strange."

**Machine-gun Santa**

On Monday, police in Abbotsford sent out a Christmas card with Santa (actually Chief Const. Bob Rich) holding a machine gun to gangsters and criminals in their community. The controversial card got mixed reactions and was even shown on the popular ABC show Live with Kelly and Michael. The inside of the card also featured a number for gangsters to call if they wanted help getting out of the gang lifestyle. METRO IN VANCOUVER

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# McAfee back in the U.S. with no money or home

**Dual citizen.** The software founder says he would be happy to move to England, awaits his girlfriends

Anti-virus-software founder John McAfee said Thursday that U.S. authorities have made no efforts to question him since he arrived in Miami after weeks of evading Belizean authorities who want to ask him about the death of his neighbour.

McAfee was deported from Guatemala after sneaking in illegally from Belize, where police want to question him in connection with the death of a U.S. expatriate who lived near him on an island off Belize's coast.

U.S officials said there was no active arrest warrant for McAfee that would justify taking him into custody.

John McAfee faces the media after arriving in Miami on Thursday. CM GUERRERO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He said he was put on a plane to Miami where he will stay until his two girlfriends, 20-year-old Belizean Samantha Vanegas and a woman he called "Amy," can join him.

The 67-year-old British native said he has no money and no home in the U.S. and has been getting by on cash that a Canadian friend sent him until his property manager comes to Miami with his cash and credit cards.

If he's reunited with the women, he said he doesn't know where he'll live or how he'll rebuild his life.

Over the weekend, he said he would be happy to go to England, noting he has dual citizenship.

McAfee bristled as reporters repeatedly asked him why he won't answer questions from officials in Belize, denying he was under investigation.

He stressed that he was afraid to answer questions because dozens of officials there stormed his property, killed his dogs, handcuffed him for hours and tried to extort money.

He has not been charged with a crime.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## High tides in Sunset Beach

A man looks at the overflowed Pacific Coast Highway in the Sunset Beach area of Huntington Beach, Calif., on Thursday. Astronomical high tides have caused minor street flooding in some low-lying areas along the Southern California coast. DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Auction

## Botched-fresco artist hits eBay

The 80-year-old Spanish artist who became famous because of her botched restoration of a Christ fresco in a small-town church is auctioning one of her works on eBay for charity.

Celia Gimenez's oil painting Las Bodegas de Borja (Borja's Wine Cellar) was fetching $808 US Thursday, doubling its starting price after 31 bids. The sale closes Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vandal case

## Man jailed for defacing art

A Polish man who defaced a Mark Rothko painting in London's Tate Modern gallery with black ink to promote an obscure artistic creed was sentenced Thursday to two years in jail.

Wlodzimierz Umaniec, also known as Vladimir Umanets, was arrested after visitors discovered a scrawl across the bottom of Rothko's Black on Maroon on Oct 7.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Deal. Canada, U.S. sign visa treaty to share biometric info by 2014

**Immigration.** Privacy commissioner's office says info may endanger applicants from places with bad human rights records

Canada will soon begin sharing biometric information and other data about visa applicants with the United States — which then may provide it to third countries under a newly signed treaty.

It means the fingerprints or photo of someone who hopes to visit, study or work in Canada could be passed to Washington, which in turn might share them with another country to help verify the person's identity. However, Canada would have to agree to the disclosure and could place restrictions or conditions on how the information is shared, says the treaty released Thursday.

The biometric sharing initiative is part of a continental perimeter security deal reached last year.

Under the agreement, biographic information will be shared by 2013. Biometric information, such as photos and fingerprints of select visa applicants, will be shared by 2014.

At a ceremony to sign the agreement, Immigration Minister Jason Kenney and U.S. ambassador David Jacobson stressed that the information would be handled with due regard for privacy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**29 countries, 1 territory**

**The sharing of biometric information involves visa applicants to Canada from:**

- Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Palestinian Authority, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Vietnam and Yemen.

## All that glitters is really gold

Queen Elizabeth II tours the gold vault during her visit to the Bank of England in London on Thursday. Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney has been named the future governor of the Bank of England starting next July. EDDIE MULHOLLAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/POOL


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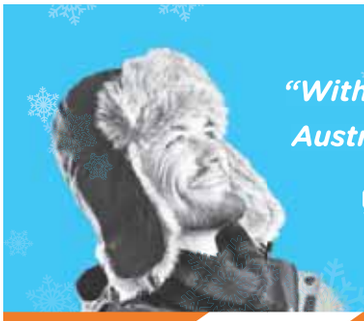

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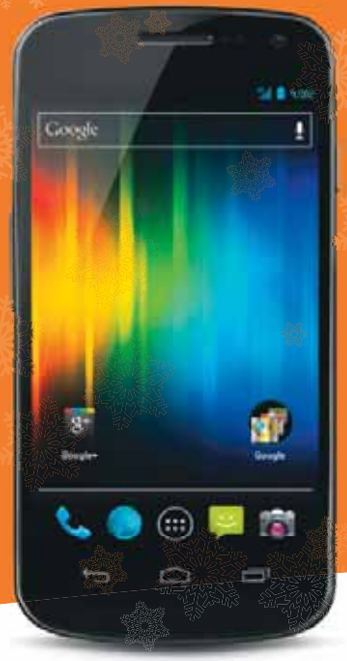


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# South Africa. Mandela, 94, honoured as he recovers from lung trouble

South African President Jacob Zuma on Thursday honoured anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, who has been hospitalized since the weekend recovering from a lung infection.

Zuma unveiled a statue of Mandela in the city of Bloemfontein, also called Mangaung, which next week hosts the ruling African National Congress party's convention.

"We will be able to yet again pay tribute to a man who became a symbol of both our struggle for freedom and the free and democratic South Africa," Zuma said.

Mandela, 94, was admitted on Saturday to 1 Military Hospital in Pretoria. "As we meet, (Mr. Mandela) is recuperating." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A giant statue of Nelson Mandela is unveiled in Bloemfontein, South Africa, Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On a Virginia campus

## Four disciplined after uproar

One student has been expelled and three others are being punished for their roles in a racially charged uproar on a Virginia college campus the night of U.S. President Barack Obama's re-election, the school said. They were among 40 students who gathered outside the Minority Student Union at Hampden-Sydney College on the night of Nov. 6 within minutes after Obama won a second term. Some shouted racial slurs, tossed bottles, set off fireworks and threatened violence. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Early Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale found

**Lost for 190 years.** Handwritten work called Tallow Candle may have been written when the author was 18: An expert says

For years, the sombre fairy tale about a lonely candle who wanted to be lit dwelt in oblivion at the bottom of a box in Denmark's National Archives. Its recent discovery has sent ripples through the literary world because it is believed to be one of the first tales ever written by Hans Christian Andersen.

The famed Dane wrote nearly 160 fairy tales in his life, including classics such as The Ugly Duckling and The Little Mermaid. The tale of the candle may have been written when he was 18, an expert says.

Retired historian Esben Brage said Thursday that he found the six-page text on Oct. 4 while searching through archive boxes that had belonged to wealthy families from Andersen's hometown of Odense in central Denmark.

The handwritten copy of the tale, entitled Tallow Candle, and dedicated to a vicar's widow named Bunkeflod who had lived across from Andersen's home, had been left seemingly untouched at the bottom of one of the boxes.

"I was ecstatic," Brage said. "I had never imagined this."

The short story tells the tale of how a tallow candle seeks help from a tinder box to be able to ignite itself. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Tallow Candle fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen, pictured here, dates to about 1823. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Expert opinion

**"We see traces of Andersen's history in the text ... It all fits with him, it all bears his fingerprint."** Ejnar Stig Askgaard, curator at the Hans Christian Andersen Museum

# The tree that signifies hope for one community

In the days after Superstorm Sandy wrecked the gritty Union Beach blue-collar enclave on the New Jersey shore, creating iconic scenes of devastation and loss, the artificial Christmas tree was just an inconspicuous part of tons of rubble, the detritus of people's lives in a town ripped open for all to see.

A local youth soccer coach drove past it for three days straight, on his way to volunteer by helping neighbours rip out the carpets, floors and walls of their flooded homes.

He plucked it from its waterlogged storage bag, set it up in a vacant field — and watched in amazement as grieving residents made the tree their own, adorning it with handmade ornaments, lights, and messages of hope, defiance and recovery.

A month later, Union Beach has rallied around the tree, a rare bit of encouragement in a depressing holiday season like no other.

"It's become the sign of our hope, that life goes on and you move forward. It's just amazing," said Gigi Liaguno-Dorr, whose restaurant, Jakeabob's Bay, was destroyed.

The town of 6,200 just across Raritan Bay from New York's Staten Island suffered major damage from the storm surge and flooding.

A house that was cut in half by waves has become one of the defining images of the storm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


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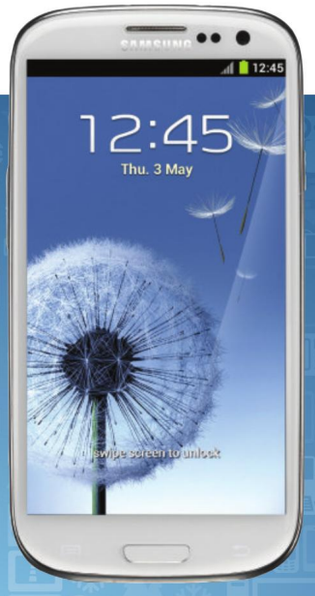


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# Chavez's people speak frankly about surgery complications

**Cancer treatment.** Venezuelan supporters pray for their leader's health during cancer treatment in Cuba

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez suffered bleeding during his cancer surgery in Cuba that required "corrective measures" to stanch the flow, his government said Thursday.

But in the latest of a series of unusually frank reports about the president's delicate condition, Information Minister Ernesto Villegas also said Chavez has been making a "progressive and favourable" recovery after the complications from Tuesday's surgery.

"This recovery process, nevertheless, will require a prudent period of time as a consequence of the complexity of the surgery performed," Villegas added.

The government has begun providing regular updates on the president's recovery after the six-hour surgery in what appears to be a slight easing of the secrecy that has surrounded Chavez's medical treatment since he fell ill last year.

The latest details about Chavez's health came as supporters held church services to pray for him and as Venezuelans increasingly acknowledged that their country might be on the verge of political change if the leftist leader cannot be sworn in for his fourth term early next year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Chavismo after Chavez**

**One-man rule has been the glue that has held together Chavez's socialist movement.**

- He hadn't groomed any clear successor until he announced over the weekend that if cancer cuts short his presidency he wants his vice-president, Nicolas Maduro, to take over.
- But some Venezuelans say battles over power may already be brewing within the president's "Chavismo" movement.

## Basking in a military victory

**Indian army soldiers perform Mallakhamb, traditional Indian gymnastics on a vertical wooden pole, during a rehearsal for Victory Day celebrations in Mumbai, Thursday. The Indian Army celebrates Victory Day on Dec. 16 to commemorate its military victory over Pakistan in 1971.** RAJANISH KAKADE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Rocket reality check**

## North Korea's weapons progress doesn't scare America

After 14 years of painstaking labour, North Korea finally has a rocket that can put a satellite in orbit. But that doesn't mean the reclusive country is close to having an intercontinental ballistic missile.

Experts say Pyongyang is years from even having a shot at developing reliable missiles that could bombard the American mainland and other distant targets, though it did gain attention and the outrage of world leaders Wednesday with its first successful launch of a three-stage, long-range rocket.

A missile program is built on decades of systematic, intricate testing, something extremely difficult for economically struggling Pyongyang, which faces guaranteed sanctions and world disapproval each time it stages an expensive launch. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Kremlin critic**

## Lawyer confirms his tea-poisoned client was on U.K. spy agency's payroll

Alexander Litvinenko, the former Russian agent-turned-Kremlin critic, was a "registered and paid" agent working for Britain's foreign intelligence agency when he died after being mysteriously poisoned, a lawyer representing his widow told an official hearing Thursday.

Another lawyer said the U.K. has evidence the Russian government was behind Litvinenko's death.

The 43-year-old Russian died in November 2006 after drinking tea laced with the rare radioactive isotope polonium-210 at a London hotel. Six years later, British authorities are reopening investigations into the shocking circumstances of his death. On his deathbed, the former Russian FSB agent accused the Russian President Vladimir Putin of being behind his killing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Google hides porn under cyber mattress

**Filtering furor.** Change to SafeSearch settings means fewer saucy pics turn up in results

In a move that polarized online opinion, Google introduced a new algorithm Thursday that will produce fewer pornographic images on its image search.

The change took effect in the U.S. only, and hasn't yet been implemented in Canada.

Twitter was abuzz with the change, which seems to affect the U.K., U.S. and Canada, but not some European countries like Germany.

"Is Google Censuring Porn on Image Search, or Is Search Broken?," tweeted @Philbo as news of the new filter broke Thursday morning.

Most of the early tweets expressed dismay in what was perceived to be increased censorship.

"Don't be evil, Google? Then why does your new Google Images algorithm make it harder to find porn?," tweeted @omar_aok.

But some users saw an upside: "Good news for schools: Google image search gets safer," wrote @jeremypearson.

The new search results come after Google recently changed its SafeSearch settings. Instead of having three SafeSearch options (off, moderate and on), users now only have the option of turning an explicit results filter on or off.

In a statement emailed to Torstar News Service, Google explained that the adult content isn't being censored, just that a user will have to search for it specifically.

"We use algorithms to select the most relevant results for a given query. If you're looking for adult content, you can find it without having to change the default setting — you just may need to be more explicit in your query if your search terms are potentially ambiguous," the statement read.

"No filter is 100 per cent accurate, but SafeSearch should help you avoid most of this type of material," writes Google on its help site.

Twitter user ?@_WillieClark solemnly declared Thursday "The day the porn died."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**Market Minute**

**DOLLAR** 101.54¢ (-0.01¢)

**TSX** 12,289.17 (-63.92)

**OIL** $85.89 US (-88¢)

**GOLD** $1,696.80 US (-$21.10)

**Natural gas:** $3.35 (-4¢)
**Dow Jones:** 13,170.72 (-74.73)

**Can you give us examples?**

**"If you're looking for adult content, you can find it without having to change the default setting — you just may need to be more explicit in your query..."**

Google statement

## Take that, Apple — Google Maps makes a return

The new Google Maps application is shown in New York on Thursday. The world's most popular online mapping system has returned with the release of the Google Maps iPhone app. The release comes nearly three months after Apple Inc. replaced Google Maps — which was the iPhone's built-in navigation system — with its own map software. But Apple's maps proved to be far inferior, and the product's shoddiness prompted Apple CEO Tim Cook to issue a rare public apology. A Google Maps iPad app is in the works, but for now, iPad owners can use the maps in iPhone mode. That won't be the best experience, but still may be better than Apple's maps on the iPad. KARLY DOMB SADOF/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Ottawa**

## Supreme Court sides with cable, satellite firms on fee system

The CRTC does not have power to make cable providers pay broadcasters for carrying their TV signals, a decision handed down Thursday by the Supreme Court of Canada that one analyst said should be a win for consumers.

While the decision was hailed by one major cable company as a step forward for customers, broadcasters said the very survival of local TV is at stake.

The Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision that setting up such a system is not within the scope of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

Telecom analyst Troy Crandall said it's the status quo for consumers, who won't have to bear any costs of a fee-for-carriage system. "It looks like a win for consumers right now because it's not going to have an immediate impact," said Crandall of MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# U.S. cyberstalking law would limit apps that track cellphone users

Sen. Al Franken introduced the mobile-privacy bill after a domestic-violence case in Minnesota in which a woman was stalked via her cellphone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

For about $50, a jealous wife or husband can download cellphone software that can track the whereabouts of a spouse better than any private detective. But in the United States, it soon might be illegal.

The Senate Judiciary Committee was expected on Thursday to approve a law closing a legal loophole that allows so-called cyberstalking apps to operate secretly on a cellphone and transmit the user's location without a person's knowledge.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Al Franken, would update laws passed years before wireless technology revolutionized communications. Telephone companies are barred from disclosing to businesses the locations of people when they make a traditional phone call.

But there's no such prohibition when communicating over the Internet. If a mobile device sends an email, links to a website or launches an app, the precise location of the phone can be passed to advertisers, marketers and others without the user's permission.

The ambiguity has created a niche for companies like Retina Software, which makes ePhoneTracker and describes it as "stealth phone spy software."

**Keeping track**

**"Suspect your spouse is cheating? Don't break the bank by hiring a private investigator."**

Slogan on Retina Software's website

An emailed statement from Retina Software said the program is for the lawful monitoring of a cellphone that the purchaser of the software owns and has a right to monitor. If there is evidence the customer doesn't own the phone, the account is closed, the company said. The program is not intended or marketed for malicious purposes, the statement said.

But supporters of the bill said there is no way to ensure the rules are followed. Such programs can be installed in moments, perhaps while the cellphone's actual owner is sleeping or in the shower. The apps operate invisibly to the cellphone's user. They can silently record text messages, call logs, physical locations and visits to websites.

Victim's advocacy groups say the bill will help to curb stalking and domestic violence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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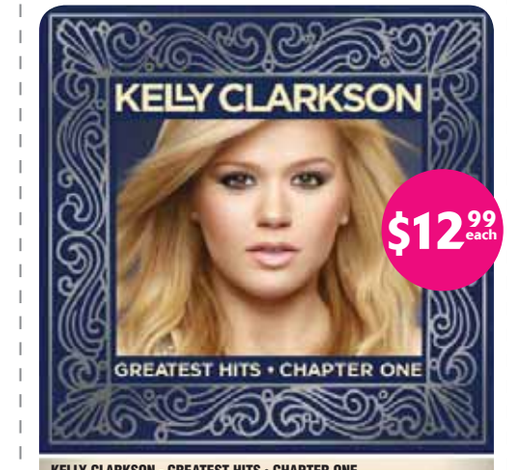


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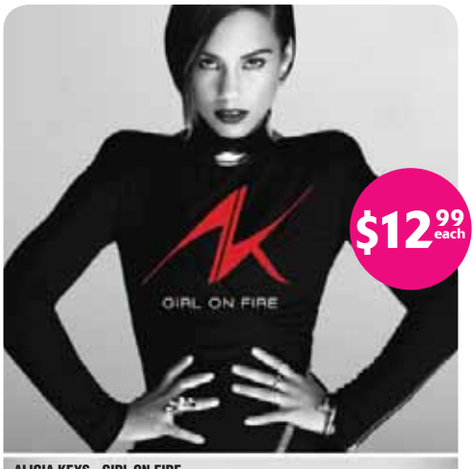


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# StatsCan. Household debt hits new record

Canadians are more in hock today than ever before, Statistics Canada said Thursday in releasing fresh data on household debt.

The new report shows household debt to annual disposable income reached a new high at 164.6 per cent, from 163.3 per cent the previous quarter.

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney has named rising household debt a key risk to the Canadian economy, but noted this week he was encouraged that credit growth appeared to be slowing.

Still, Carney has also said he expects the debt-to-income ratio to keep rising over the next couple of years. That is in part because of a lag in time between purchase decisions — such as a new home — and when the debt gets registered.

There was some good news in the report. The agency noted that the pace of growth in debt slowed during the period.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Digging a deeper hole**

- In the July-September period, households borrowed $27.3 billion, $18.4 billion of that in mortgages, while consumer credit levels increased by $7 billion to $474 billion.

**Research in Motion**

## U.S. customs agency to launch BB10 pilot program

Research In Motion says the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency will launch a pilot program with its smartphones using the new operating system BlackBerry10, likely in January.

However, RIM has lost several other U.S. departments and agencies as clients. BlackBerry smartphones were recently dropped by the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board in favour of the new iPhone 5.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Strong loonie, stable economy boost holiday travel plans

**New survey.** Canadians will spend average of $563 on seasonal trips

Santa's already got his holiday travel arrangements in hand. A new poll found 60 per cent of Canadians also plan to travel over the Christmas-New Year's period. TOM TINGLE/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It looks like Santa won't be the only one on the move this holiday season.

The Bank of Montreal says a strong loonie and a relatively stable economy are fuelling a desire by many Canadians to get away over the Christmas-New Year's period.

According to the bank's 2012 Holiday Travel Outlook released Thursday, some 60 per cent of Canadians plan to travel over the holidays, spending an average of $563 apiece on their trips.

The survey found that while some 39 per cent planned to travel within their home province, almost one in five, or 19 per cent, were looking to go abroad.

The most popular destination outside of Canada was the United States, with 13 per cent of Canadians heading south of the border. Some three per cent chose Mexico as their preferred destination while eight per cent collectively chose other destinations and 12 per cent said they would be going to other provinces besides their own.

Meanwhile, the survey found that those in Atlantic Canada were the most likely to travel over the holidays (80 per cent), while those in Quebec were the least likely (41 per cent).

To help fund travel plans, the report found that Canadians' use of reward points is on the rise. Two out of 10 Canadians (21 per cent) planned to travel on reward points this year, up seven per cent over last year.

BMO said the results were from an online survey conducted by Pollara between Oct. 11 and Oct. 16 with a random sample of 1,000 Canadians 18 years of age and over.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**By the numbers**

**74%**

Travellers will be younger this holiday season, with 74 per cent of Canadians under 30 planning to travel compared with 42 per cent of those 65 and over.

U.S. House Speaker John Boehner gestures during a news conference on Capitol Hill on Thursday. He accused President Barack Obama of not being serious about cutting spending. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Obama, Boehner meeting produces few signs of progress on avoiding fiscal cliff

Face to face with time running short, President Barack Obama and Republican House Speaker John Boehner negotiated at the White House Thursday night in what aides called "frank" talks aimed at breaking a stubborn deadlock and steering the nation away from the so-called fiscal cliff.

Boehner returned to the Capitol an hour later, briskly walking past reporters without comment. There was no indication whether any progress had been made, though the use of the word "frank" by both sides to describe the talks suggested the president and the speaker stuck hard to their opposing positions.

The meeting came shortly after Obama suggested that the sluggish pace of deficit-cutting talks between the administration and congressional Republicans was a result of a "contentious caucus" of GOP lawmakers who were making it difficult for Boehner to negotiate.

Boehner saw it differently. He said earlier in the day: "Unfortunately, the White House is so unserious about cutting spending that it appears willing to slow-walk any agreement and walk our economy right up to the fiscal cliff."

Thursday night's meeting was the two men's second face-to-face encounter in five days as they seek to find an agreement that avoids major tax increases and across-the-board spending cuts scheduled to kick in January. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Taxing issue**

- There's increasing resignation within the Republican Party that Obama is going to prevail on the rate issue since the alternative is to allow taxes on all workers to go way up when tax cuts implemented during the George W. Bush presidency expire Dec. 31.

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# MONKEY SEE, GOOSE BUMP, BEAR NO CAN DO

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

**1** **Pimpin' primate.** The week's top story involves a stylishly dressed monkey wandering cluelessly near a store, and eventually taken to live with a baboon. Wasn't that the premise for Jersey Shore?

**2** **Call Me Maybe.** The robocall challenge went before Federal Court this week. Voters questioned the integrity of the election process, and political scientist Peter Russel said, "Canadian citizens don't want to be lied to in robocalls." He's right. Canadians are accustomed to politicians who lie to us in person, dammit!

**3** **Diminishing returns.** Imagine waiting hours at a restaurant for a steak, and then being given two of them minutes before they close. You now have to consume massive quantities in a hurry, and while the first two bites are satisfying, the whole thing just ends up making you sick. Welcome to your condensed NHL season.

**4** **Good for the goose.** The Canadian dollar rose slightly this week while American currency weakened when it was announced that the U.S. Federal Reserve would be printing additional money to buy up more bonds. I had a friend who used to do that but I haven't seen him in years.

**5** **Single mother.** An 11-year-old female polar bear at the Toronto Zoo, who last year rejected three of her own cubs, gave birth to three more on Dec. 6. One died shortly after birth, and the others died on Sunday. The zoo is unclear about how these last two died, and they are investigating. Now, I'm no social worker, but maybe she's just not ready for motherhood?

**6** **Ask Men?** Jennifer Lawrence, the 22-year-old star of The Hunger Games, has been named the "most desirable woman" of the year in an annual AskMen.com poll based on several criteria including sex appeal, talent, sense of humour, and professional success, although the latter three are only ever seen by women.

**7** **Li-Lo litigation.** I was going to provide an update on Lindsay Lohan's court case but then I had a dream in which she hit me with her Porsche, punched me in the face, stole my watch and made me watch Liz & Dick. I woke up in a cold sweat, screaming, "No mas Lindsay! Please! No mas!"

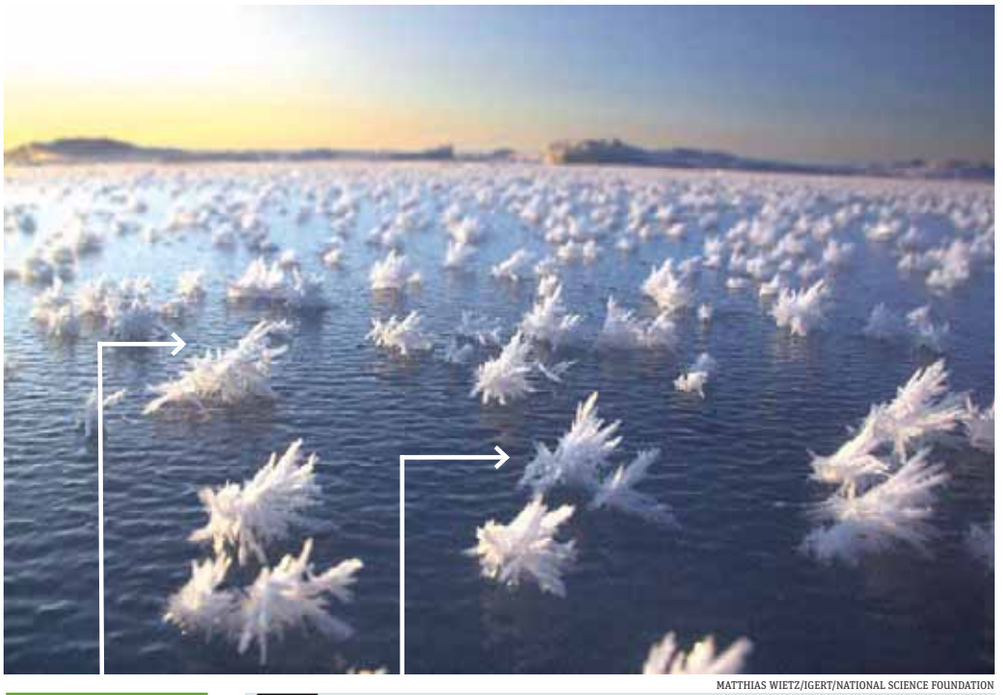
**8** **Dalton McGuinty.** Pardon me. What I was going to say about Ontario's premier may already have been said in No. 2 above. Or was it No. 1? Take your pick.

**9** **RIP.** We lost two outstanding international artists this week. The first was Jenni Rivera, a huge star in the Latin world, whose life and career were cut short in a plane crash at age 43. The second was Ravi Shankar, 92, whose work with the Beatles made him the best-known contemporary Indian musician of our time. Gen Y may only know him as Norah Jones' dad (and we thank him for that), but his impact on music is unparalleled in many ways. Thankfully, both of these artists left their music for us to cherish. Rock 'n' roll heaven awaits.

Happy Holidays to all.

Golden girl: The Hunger Games' Jennifer Lawrence was named AskMen.com's 'most desirable woman' of the year. GETTY IMAGES FILE

# Blooming cold in the Arctic



MATTHIAS WIETZ/IGERT/NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

In the garden of freezin'

## Chilly air creates a sea of flowers at the North Pole

Some (flowers) like it hot, but others like these in the North Pole prefer it very cold. Frost flowers, a natural phenomenon where frost grows amid an extremely cold atmosphere on top of warmer water, form unusual floral structures that host microorganisms. Oceanographer Jeff Bowman spoke to Metro about his research.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

## *Like frost, but in 3-D*

**How are these frost flowers formed?**
They grow on new ice with open cracks. The extremely cold air (below -8 C) becomes saturated, and frost starts to form on the ice's imperfections. Then feathery structures begin to grow out of the cracks, and incorporate marine salt and micro-organisms like algae. They are no different to frost formations, but only in 3-D.

Jeff Bowman at work in the Arctic Ocean. MATTHIAS WIETZ/IGERT/NSF

**What is the significance of these ethereal structures?**
Chemical reactions in the flowers produce compounds that help form clouds. This low cloud cover can alter the local climate — by reflecting sunlight back into space — and thus make the region colder. In addition, frost flowers can potentially release aerosols, which can lead to ozone depletion. But so far this is nothing more than speculation.

**What was your first reaction when you saw these?**
They are stunning and so ubiquitous, you can see them for kilometres. They form very abruptly, within only a few hours. I recall one expedition to the North Pole: when the fog cleared the entire icescape was covered as far as the eye could see by these bizarre yet beautiful shapes.

Metropolitan Panel

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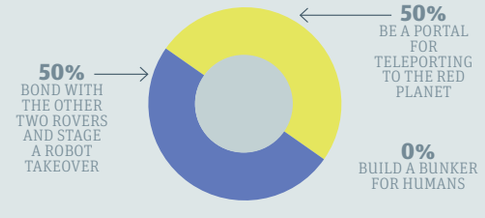
## NASA is planning to send another rover to Mars. What should be its mission?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0%
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Twitter

**@angusreid64:** Having Christmas dinner tomorrow with the inmates at the Burnaby Youth Corrections facility. Very honored to be invited. My 6th year going

**@BenWest:** So proud that our @MayorGregor Robertson declared today "Save The FraserDay" in Vancouver #BCpoli #Cdnpoli

**@christyclarkbc:** Wishing His Highness the Aga Khan a very happy birthday today.

**@pattibacchus:** Should news media be reporting the method the nurse in the UK phone prank tragedy used to take her life? Worth the risk of contagion effect?

**@diamondisinger:** RT @charliedemers: Just found out there's a HEAT shelter a block from my house. I hadn't heard anything, because my neighbours aren't dicks.

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SCENE 2

The Hobbit is a coming-of-age story for Bilbo Baggins. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

# High-def hobbits?

**Too much tech.** The tale of the beginning of Lord of the Rings is overshadowed by 48 frames per second

**Richard:** Ned, as much as the story and performances, people will be talking about the presentation of the movie. Shot and projected at 48 frames a second — twice the industry standard — the picture is so vivid, so pristine, it doesn't really look like a movie. Combine that with the 3D and it's like watching mega high-definition. Every goblin wart and troll blemish is distinct enough to give dermatologists everywhere nightmares. What did you think of the mega-super-hi-definition look?

**Ned:** I have to say, the 48 frames per second was a problem for me. It often looked somewhere between a super-high definition 1980s BBC miniseries and a video game, and it just felt utterly un-cinematic. Saying that it doesn't really look like a movie hits the nail on the head. Christopher Nolan has harped on in the past about film having a "warmth" that video can't replicate, and I think I see what he means here. But the biggest crime, I think, is that the sweeping shots of the New Zealand landscape looked fake.

**RC:** Perhaps it's like the difference between vinyl or CD. I prefer the warm sound of old-school vinyl to the hard digital preproduction of CD. The pops and skips are part of the experience, just as film blur and grain are a part of watching 35 mm projected on the big screen. Having said that, Gollum is awesome at 48 frames a second. The extended scene (for the record, most of the scenes in the film could be called extended), in which Bilbo and Gollum meet and trade riddles is one of the highlights of the film thanks to Serkis' astounding motion capture performance.

**NE:** That scene is the true highlight of the film, and it coincidentally is where Martin Freeman, as the younger Bilbo, really shines as well. But even with this standout, Peter Jackson and company manage to spoil it (for me at least) by overdoing Gollum's last line to beat the viewer over the head with another reminder that all this leads to the Lord of the Rings. It's a bad habit running through the film that grows tedious. Elijah Wood's cameo is particularly clumsy in this regard, with him basically describing what he's going to do in his first scene in Fellowship of the Ring and then running off to do it.

**RC:** It may be clumsy, but I think fans of the series will revel at the chance of revisiting the characters!

**NE:** Well, they'll have plenty of chances. If you like this one, the good news is it's just the first of three movies.

**Synopsis**

**The prequel to the immensely popular Lord of the Rings films is a coming-of-age story for Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman), a stay-at-home hobbit from Bag End, in Hobbiton in the Shire. He's content with his quiet life until Gandalf (Ian McKellen), a wizard, recruits him to help a group of 13 dwarves in their quest to reclaim their former home, the Lonely Mountain, and its treasure from the dragon Smaug.**

- Richard:
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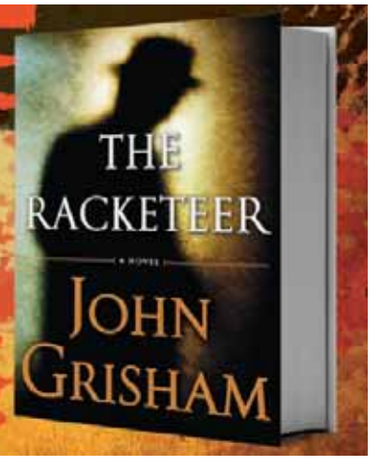


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Drama/Comedy

## Hyde Park on Hudson

**Director.** Roger Michell

**Stars.** Bill Murray, Laura Linney

Even a charming performance by Bill Murray can't quite save Hyde Park on Hudson from its own mismatched intent. One-part quasi-romantic drama between wartime President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Murray) and a distant cousin/mistress (Linney) and one-part comedy about Roosevelt's 1939 relationship-building with the King of England, one wishes filmmaker Roger Michell had chosen the latter to base his beautifully-shot film around even in spite of some crafty dialogue and plotting.

STEVE GOW

# Barbra Streisand shares her secrets

**The Guilt Trip.** Multi-talented entertainer dishes about the film industry, Seth Rogen and getting scripts

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Barbra Streisand is many things — an acclaimed actress, singer, director and writer, political activist and philanthropist — but most of all she's a woman not afraid to speak her mind. So what wisdom did Streisand have to impart while promoting the Guilt Trip?

**The secret to her success is staying home**

"I don't make that many movies and I don't make that many appearances," she says. "That's it. Less is more. And maybe that keeps a little mystery or something. I like to stay home a lot."

**She doesn't like where the film industry has been going**

"It's not the same as when I last made a film. They're not interested in love stories or any movie that's over $15 million. But it could be $100 million, that's OK. Two hundred million is OK to lose," she laughs. "But movies that I'm used to making or liking, that draw me, they're movies that cost $18 million, $20 million, and they're not interested in those movies. It's a different time."

**She doesn't actually get sent that many scripts to consider**

"I don't. You see, everybody gets like that. 'She must get so many scripts, why would I send it to her? She'll never get a chance to read it,'" Streisand laments. "Meanwhile I'll go, 'Where are the scripts?'"

**While co-star Seth Rogen asked around about what working with Streisand would be like, she wasn't able to do any similar research.**

"Seth, it turns out, sussed me out," she says. "He called people from the Focker movies. I didn't know who to call. I don't know any of those people from his movies, so what was I going to do?"

The Guilt Trip opens next Friday. HANDOUT

# What's next in the Broadway to big screen adaptations?

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

With Les Misérables hitting theatres Christmas Day, it'll mark just the latest Broadway hit to be brought to the big-screen. While fans must wait a little longer before checking out the adaptation, we wanted to examine other Broadway classics that have yet to be converted into cinematic gold.

**The Book of Mormon**

Conceived by funnymen Trey Parker and Matt Stone, The Book of Mormon isn't just the 2011 Tony Award champion; it's an unlikely hit musical about missionaries in war-torn Uganda that mixes satire and song the way only the creators of TV's South Park can do.

**Status:** Although the comic duo announced eventual plans for a film version, Parker admitted they're in no rush, telling Movieline, "We'd have to really rethink it."

**Avenue Q**

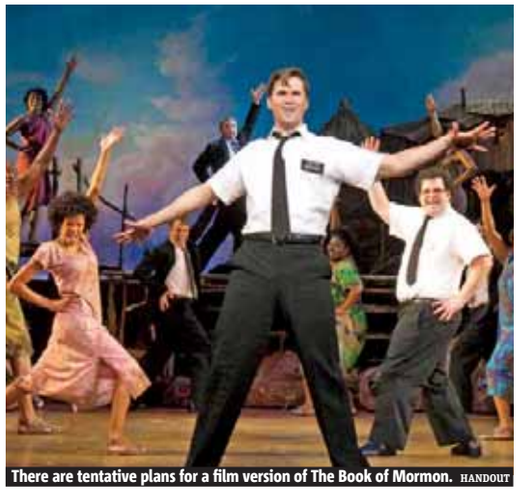
Debuting from an experimental play in 2003, this Sesame-Street-for-adults show featuring politically-incorrect (and sometimes nude!) puppets struggling in Manhattan could amp it up even more for the big screen.

**Status:** There have been rumours but no serious plans are in the works ver. Someone call Jason Segel.

**Jersey Boys**

This musical biography may have debuted in San Diego but the story of 1960s singing group the Four Seasons has become one of Broadway's biggest box-office draws.

**Status:** Floating around Hollywood for years, Jersey Boys was to begin production in January until Warner Brothers' yanked the project.



There are tentative plans for a film version of The Book of Mormon. HANDOUT

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## Vancouver

### OMNIMAX Theatre Science World 1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Fri-Sun 1-3 Tue-Thu 1-3
To the Arctic (G) Fri 12-2 Sat-Sun 12-2-4 Tue-Thu 12-2

### Dunbar Theatre 4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri 3-7-10:30 Sat-Sun 11:15-3-7-10:30 Mon-Thu 3-7-10:30

### Fifth Avenue Cinemas 2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Hitchcock (PG) Fri-Tue 2-4:40-7:15-9:20 Wed 2-4:40-9:20 Thu 2-4:40-7:15-9:20
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-6:50-9:30
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Wed 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:40 Thu 12:45-3:45
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:25-7-9:35
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7:10-10

### Pacific Cinémathèque 1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456 cinematheque.bc.ca

Is She or Isn't He? (STC) Wed 7:30
My Neighbor Totoro (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 9 Sun 6:30 Mon 9
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Ocean Waves (STC) Sun 4:30
Princess Mononoke (STC) Fri 8:15 Sat 6:30 Sun 8:15 Mon 6:30
A Retro Animated Holiday Package (STC) Sun 1
Yoyo (STC) Thu 8:25

### Park Theatre 3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:15-8
Ridge Theatre
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311
Anna Karenina (PG) Fri 4-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:30

### Rio on Broadway 1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film riotheatre.ca

Argo (PG) Thu 7
Bobcaygeon (STC) Wed 9:30
Busong (STC) Wed 6:30
Edward Scissorhands (STC) Fri 11
Ghosts With Sh... Jobs (STC) Tue 7
Looper (14A) Thu 9:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat-Sun
Yor, the Hunter From the Future (STC) Mon 8

### Scotiabank Theatre Vancouvr 900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Batman Returns (STC) Mon 7:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:40-9:30 Sat 11-1:15-2-5-5:50-8:30-9:30 Sun 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:30-9:30 Mon 12:30-1:15-4:15-5-8-8:45 Tue 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:45-9:30 Wed-Thu 12:30-1:15-4:15-5-8-8:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 3-6:45-10:25 Tue 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Wed-Thu 3-6:45-10:25 Fri-Sat 12-2:45-3:45-6:30-7:30-10:15-11:15 Sun 12-2:45-3:45-6:30-7:30-10:15 Mon 2-2:30-5:45-6:15-9:30-10 Tue 12-2:45-3:45-6:30-7:30-10:15 Wed-Thu 2-2:30-5:45-6:15-9:30-10
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40 Mon 1-4-7-10:10 Tue 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40 Wed-Thu 1-4-7-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Skyfall (PG) Fri 12:25-12:50-3:40-4:10-7:10-7:30-10:30-11 Sat 12:50-2:30-4:10-7:10-7:30-10:30-11 Sun 12:25-12:50-3:40-4:10-7:10-7:30-10:30-11 Mon 12-12:25-3:15-3:40-7:10-10-10:30 Tue 12:25-12:50-3:40-4:10-7:10-7:30-10:30-11 Wed-Thu 12-12:25-3:15-3:40-6:40-10-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Sat 2:30-5:10-8-10:50 Sun 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Mon 1:30-4:30-10:30 Tue 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Wed 1:45-4:30-7:20-10:30 Thu 1:45-4:45-10:30

### Vancity Theatre Vancouver International Film Centre 1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film, vifc.org

Flash Gordon (STC) Fri-Sat 10
The Fruit Hunters (STC) Fri 8:15 Sun 8:45 Wed 8:30
In Search of Haydn (STC) Thu 2:50-7:45
My Neighbor Totoro (STC) Fri 6:30
Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (STC) Sat 3 Sun 4
Ponyo (G) Sun 2 Wed 6:30
Princess Mononoke (STC) Sun 6:15 Tue 6:30
Spirited Away (PG) Sat 5:20 Mon 6:30 Thu 5:30
Step Up to the Plate (STC) Sat 7:45 Tue 9
The Wiz (STC) Mon 8:50

### Vancouver Aquarium 4D Experience Theatre 845 Avison Way, 604-659-3752 vanaqua.org

The Polar Express 4-D Experience (STC) Fri 11:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-1:45-2:15-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15 Sat-Sun 10:45-11:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-1:45-2:15-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15 Mon-Thu 11:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-1:45-2:15-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15

## North Shore

### Esplanade 6 200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 6:40-9:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 8:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 Mon-Tue 8:30 Wed-Thu 8:30-9:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri 7-8-9:15 Sat-Sun 12-1-3-4-5-7-8-9:15 Mon-Tue 7-8-9:15 Wed-Thu 7-8
Lincoln (PG) Fri 6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 11:50-3:15-6:40-9:50 Mon-Tue 6:40-9:50
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 6:30-9:30
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Tue 6:30-9:30
Park & Tilford
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911
Argo (PG) Fri 7:20-9:55 Sat 3:50-7:10-10 Sun 1:10-3:50-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:55
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri 7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:45
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri 7:10-10:10 Sat 10-1-4-7:05-10:10 Sun 1-4-7:05-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:10-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat 11:40-2:10 Sun 2:10
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:40-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Skyfall (PG) Fri 6:50-10 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-7-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-10
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat 11:15-1:50-4:35-7:30-10:20 Sun 1:50-4:35-7:30-10:05 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50

## Richmond

### SilverCity Riverport 14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Argo (PG) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:05 Sun 1:30-7:55-10:05 Mon 1:30-4:20-10 Tue 1:30-4:20-7:05-10
Back to 1942 (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:55-7:10-10:35 Mon-Tue 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:20 Wed-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:10-10:20
Batman Returns (STC) Mon 7:30
Flight (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:25-7:30-10:35 Mon-Wed 12:50-4-7:05-10:15 Thu 12:50-4-10:15
The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:25
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:45-9:30 Sat 9:55-1:15-2:30-5-6:10-8:45-10 Sun 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:15-2-5-5:45-8:45-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Sun 11:20-3-6:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:40-4:20-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:30-7:15-11 Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:25 Fri-Sat 12-3:45-7:30-11:15 Sun 12-3:45-7:30 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:15-10
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Khiladi 786 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-6:55-10:10
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:05-5:45-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:35-3-5:30-8:05-10:30
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40 Sat 10:30-1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40 Mon-Tue 1-4:05-7:10-10:10 Wed-Thu 12:55-4:05-7:05-10:05
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:45-7-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 12:35-3:05-5:35-8:05-10:30
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:15-7-9:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 12:30 Sat 10:10
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:55-5:20-7:45-10:15
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10:05
Skyfall (PG) Fri 12:40-4-7:15-10:45 Sat 10:05-10:10-1-4:05-7:20-10:50 Sun 12:45-4:05-7:20-10:50 Mon-Thu 12:45-4:05-7:20-10:30
Talaash (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:35-7:45-10:45 Mon 1:05-4:15-10:25 Tue 1:05-4:15-7:25-10:25
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 11:30-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Sat 9:55-10:15-10:25-11:30-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Sun 11:30-2:20-5:10-8:10-10:50 Mon-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:25
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 12:25 Sat 10-12:25 Sun 12:15 Mon-Tue 1:15 Wed-Thu 1:15-4:10-6:50-9:35
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri-Sat 3-5:35-8:10-10:40 Sun 2:50-5:25-10:40 Mon-Tue 4:10-6:50-9:35
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 5

## Burnaby

### Dolphin Cinemas 4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Flight (14A) Fri-Thu 8:50
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 3:15-6:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 12-3:15-6:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:45
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 4:45-6:50 Sat-Sun 12:45-2:45-4:45-6:50 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:50
SilverCity Metropolis
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474
Back to 1942 (14A) Fri-Sat 12:05-3:30-6:55-10:10 Sun 12:05-6:55-10:10 Mon-Tue 12:15-3:30-6:50-10:05
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:15 Sat 2-2:45-5:50-6:30-9:30-10:15 Sun 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:40-1:30-4:20-5:15-8-9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:25 Fri 2:45-6:30-10:15 Sat 12-3:45-7:30-11:15 Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 12 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:15-10
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:25-10:30 Mon-Thu 1-4-7-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 12:15-2:35-5:05-7:40-10:05
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Thu 12:10
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:30-5:50-8:10-10:30
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sat 12:45-4-7:20-10:40 Sun 7:20 Mon-Thu 12:35-3:50-7:05-10:20 Sun 12:45-3:30-10:40
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:55-9:45
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sat 12:20 Sun 11:40 Mon-Tue 12:05 Wed 12:05-2:45-5:25-7:55-10:30 Thu 1:30-4:15-10:30
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri-Sat 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35 Sun 2:15-4:45-10:35 Mon-Tue 2:45-5:25-7:55-10:30
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 5

## New West/ Coquitlam

### SilverCity Coquitlam 170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Flight (14A) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:30-7:35-10:40 Sun 1:25-7:35-10:40 Mon-Tue 1:25-4:30-7:35-10:40
The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:40-9:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-2:45-5-6:30-9:15-10:15 Mon 12:30-1:30-4:15-5:15-8-9 Tue 12-1:30-4:15-5:15-8-9 Wed-Thu 12:30-1:30-4:15-5:15-8-9 Fri-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 Mon 4:30-8:30 Tue 12:30-4:30-8:30 Wed-Thu 4:30-8:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:30 Fri-Sat 12-3:45-7:30-11:15 Sun 12-3:45-7:30 Mon 2-5:45-9:30 Tue 1:45-5:45-9:30 Wed-Thu 2-5:45-9:30 Fri-Sun 2-6-10 Mon 2:30-6:15-10 Tue 2-6-10 Wed-Thu 2:30-6:15-10 Sat 11
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Sun 12:45-3:15-8:30-10:45 Mon-Tue 2:45-5:30-7:45-10:10
Life of Pi (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:50-7:45-10:45 Mon 4:50-7:45-10:45 Tue 1:30-4:50-7:45-10:45 Wed-Thu 4:50-7:45-10:45
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:15-10:20
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55 Sat 9:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:45-4:15-6:50-9:15
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:15-7:50-10:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 2:40
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:45-10:15
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Fri 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:30 Sat 3:50-6:40-9:30 Sun 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:30 Mon 3:50-6:40-9:30 Tue 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:30 Wed-Thu 3:50-6:40-9:30
Skyfall (PG) Fri 12:50-4:10-7:40-11 Sat 1-4:10-7:40-11 Sun 12:50-4:10-7:40-10:50 Mon-Thu 12:50-4-7:30-10:45
Fri-Sun 12:15-3:30-7:15-10:30 Mon 3:30-7:15-10:30 Tue 12:15-3:30-7:15-10:30 Wed-Thu 3:30-7:15-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Mon-Thu 2:20-5:10-8-10:50
A Werewolf Boy (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-7-10:05
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 12:20 Sat 11 Sun 12:20 Mon-Tue 2 Wed 2-4:45-7:15-10 Thu 2-4:45-10
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35 Mon-Tue 4:45-7:15-10
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 5

## Surrey/White Rock/ Langley

### Clova 5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 12:30-7 Mon-Thu 7

### Hollywood 3 Cinema 7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Argo (PG) Fri-Thu 6:45
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri-Thu 8:45
Flight (14A) Fri-Thu 6:30
Hotel Transylvania (G) Sat-Sun 12:45
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri 4:45-6:45 Sat-Sun 2:45-4:45-6:45 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:45
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri-Thu 9:15
Pitch Perfect (PG) Sat-Sun 2
Red Dawn (PG) Fri-Thu 4:40-9:10
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 4:30


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| | |
|---|---|
| 1 oz. modern, sealed bars | $1,719.19 |
| 1 oz gold Maple Leaf | $1,729.99 |
| 1 oz. Krugerrand | $1,673.36 |
| Sovereign | $391.88 |

## Antique Jewellery

## Silverware

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| Item/Description | Vancouver Gold Pays | J&M Pays |
|---|---|---|
| 10kt scrap gold, per gram | $16.85 | $20.23 |
| 14kt scrap gold, per gram | $26.77 | $28.42 |
| 1 oz. Recognized Gold Bar | $1,629.37 | $1,719.19 |
| 1 oz. Gold Maple Leaf Coin | $1,674.54 | $1,729.99 |
| Sterling Silver, per Gram | $0.67 | $0.78 |
| Silver Canadian Coins from 1966 and earlier, per $1 face value | $16.16 | $17.80 |

Prices in this ad based on gold @ U$1,770.21 and silver @ U$34.51 and a USD/CAD exchange rate of 0.9744 on September 19, 2012, the day this ad was created.

## Silver Coins and Bars

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 oz. silver bar | $34.33 |
| 10 oz. silver bar | $346.27 |
| 100 oz. silver bar | $3,375.07 |
| 1 oz. silver Maple Leaf | $34.67 |

## Watches

*Rolex, Vacheron & Constantine, Patek Philipe, Breitling, Omega, Jaeger LeCoultre, Select Cartier, and many other high-end watches.*

## Canada Collector Coins

| | |
|---|---|
| 1948 $1 | $900.00 and up |
| 1890H 50¢ | $500.00 and up |
| 1875H 25¢ | $200.00 and up |
| 1889 10¢ | $350.00 and up |
| 1921 5¢ | $4,000.00 and up |
| 1923 1¢ | $14.00 and up |

## Silver Coins *Per $1.00 Face Value*

| | |
|---|---|
| Canada 1968 | $10.86 |
| Canada 1967 | $13.88 |
| Canada 1966 and earlier | $17.80 |
| USA 1964 and older | $20.60 |

## Scrap Gold *Per gram*

| | |
|---|---|
| 10kt | $20.23 |
| 14kt | $28.42 |
| 18kt | $36.60 |

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Coins and Collectibles website **www.jandm.com** Precious Metals website **www.bullioncoinsandbars.com**

**Strawberry Hill Grande**
**12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400**

The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 12:40-3:05-5:35-8-10:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:15 Mon 12-12:40-1:30-4:20-5:15-8-9 Tue 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30 Wed-Thu 12-12:40-1:30-4:20-5:15-8-9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri 2:45-6:30-10:15 Sat 11-2:45-6:30-10:15 Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon 2:30-6:15-10 Tue 2:45-6:30-10:15 Wed-Thu 2:30-6:15-10 Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 3-6:45-10:25 Tue 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Wed-Thu 3-6:45-10:25
Jab Tak Hai Jaan (PG) Fri-Sat 1:40-5:40-9:40 Sun 1-9:40 Mon-Tue 1:40-5:40-9:40
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Khiladi 786 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-5:30-9:45
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:40
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:30 Mon 12:30-4-7-9:45 Tue 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 12:10 Sat 11-12:10 Sun 12:10 Mon 1:45 Tue 12:10 Wed-Thu 12:30-5:20-7:45-10:15
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:15 Mon 5:10-7:45-10:15 Tue 2:40-5:10-7:45-10:15
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:40-7-10:30 Mon 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Tue 12:25-3:40-7-10:30 Wed-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45
Talaash (PG) Fri 1-5:45-9:30 Sat 1:30-5:45-9:30 Sun-Thu 1-5:45-9:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Sat 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Sun 2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Mon 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10 Tue 2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Wed-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 5

**Studio 12 Guildford**
**15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176**

The Guilt Trip (PG) , Wed-Thu 5:45-8:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) , , Fri-Sun 3:15-7 , , Mon 5-8:45 , , Tue 3:15-7 , , Wed-Thu 5-8:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) , Fri 4:15-5-6:15-8-9-10 , Sat-Sun 12:30-1:15-2:30-4:15-5-6:15-8-9-10 , Mon 6-7-8 , Tue 4:15-5-6:15-8-9-10 , Wed-Thu 6-7-8
Khiladi 786 (PG) , , Fri 3:55-7:10 , , Sat-Sun 12:40-3:55-7:10 , , Mon 8:20 , , Tue 3:55-7:10 , , Wed-Thu 8:20
Killing Them Softly (14A) , , Fri 3:50-6:45-9:30 , , Sat-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:45-9:30 , , Mon 5:15-8:05 , , Tue 3:50-6:45-9:30
Life of Pi (G) , , Fri-Sun 12:50 , , Mon 5:30 , , Tue 12:50 , , Wed-Thu 5:20-8:25
Life of Pi 3D (G) , Fri-Sun 3:40-6:40-9:50 , Mon 8:15 , Tue 3:40-6:40-9:50
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) , Wed-Thu 5:30-8:15
Playing for Keeps (PG) , , Fri-Sun 9:10 , , Mon 8:25 , , Tue 9:10 , , Wed-Thu 8:05
Rise of the Guardians (G) , , Fri 4-6:25-9:20 , , Sat-Sun 1:30-4-6:25-9:20 , , Mon 5:05-7:50 , , Tue 4-6:25-9:20 , , Wed-Thu 5:05-7:50
Skyfall (PG) , , Fri 4:05-7:30 , , Sat-Sun 12:45-4:05-7:30 , , Mon 5:35-8:50 , , Tue 4:05-7:30 , , Wed-Thu 5:35-8:50
Talaash (PG) , , Fri-Sun 3-6:50-9:55 , , Mon 8:10 , , Tue 3-6:50-9:55 , , Wed-Thu 8:35
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) , , Fri 3:30-6:20-9:40 , , Sat-Sun 12:35-3:30-6:20-9:40 , , Mon 5:45-8:35 , , Tue 3:30-6:20-9:40 , , Wed-Thu 5:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 3:45-6:35 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:35 Mon 5:20 Tue 3:45-6:35

**Rialto**
**1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterion-theatres.com**

The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 7-9
Life of Pi (G) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2:10-7 Mon-Tue 7
Lincoln (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

**Criterion 4 White Rock**
**2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criterion-theatres.com**

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri-Thu 9:10
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 7:15-9 Sat-Sun 2:15-7:15-9 Mon-Thu 7:15-9
Skyfall (PG) Fri 7:45 Sat-Sun 1:45-7:45 Mon-Thu 7:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2-7 Mon-Thu 7

**Colossus Langley**
**20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747**

Anna Karenina (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-10:05
Batman Returns (STC) Mon 7:30
Flight (14A) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:25-7:35-10:40 Mon-Tue 3:45-7:15-10:30
The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 4:25-7:05-9:40
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-1:45-5-5:30-8:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:45-5:15-8:30-9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Sun 11:20-3-6:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:20-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri 2:45-6:30-10:15 Sat 11-2:45-6:30-10:15 Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:45-9:30 Fri-Sun 11:45-3:30-7:15-11 Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:25 Fri-Sun 2:15-6-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:15-10
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Killing Them Softly (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:45-10:20
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:25-10:25
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 3:25-6:50-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 4:35-7:35-10:05
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:55-9:45
Red Dawn (PG) Fri-Sun 10:05 Mon 10:40 Tue 9:35
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:40-7:15 Mon 4:10 Tue 4:10-6:50 Wed-Thu 4:40
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:15-7:45-10:15 Mon-Tue 4:40-7:20-9:55 Wed-Thu 7:20-9:55
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:35-7:25-10:25 Mon-Thu 4-7-10:15
Skyfall (PG) Fri 12:25-12:50-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-10:30-11 Sat 12:25-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-10:30-11 Sun 12:25-12:50-3:40-4:10-7-9-10:30 Mon-Wed 3:30-4-6:45-7:15-10:10-10:30 Thu 3:30-4-6:45-10:10-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sat 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10 Sun 11:15-2-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20-10:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sun 12:20 Wed-Thu 4:30-7:10-9:55
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3-5:30-8:05-10:35 Mon-Tue 4:30-7:10-9:55
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 5

# Forget about that Jingle Bell Rock

**SOUND CHECK**
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Tired of the same old Christmas songs? Here are two brand new tracks

## 1 Burn the Flames/Mark Lanegan

The former Screaming Trees frontman has a lo-fi solo EP entitled Dark Mark Does Christmas. Correct on all counts.

## 2 Angels Without Wings/The Mahones

A fun Christmas song from the new album, Angels & Devils. Good for singing at the pub after a few pints.

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Sorento SX shown△

2013
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| $157≠ BI-WEEKLY | $0 DOWN | 1.49% APR | 60 MONTHS | EVERYBODY WINS* $1,000 |

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STEP UP TO V6

**2013 SORENTO 3.5L LX V6:**

| FOR AN EXTRA | | FOR UP TO |
|---|---|---|
| $15≠ BI-WEEKLY | OR 0% FINANCING | 60 MONTHS |

HWY (A/T): 6.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.8L/100KM

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BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY°

AVAILABLE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

**POWERFUL V6**
3.5L V6 276 HP 248 LB-FT

3,500 LBS TOWING CAPACITY‡

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** $8,053 remaining balance.
Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,772, **$500 LOAN SAVINGS**§ and **$1,000 EVERYBODY WINS SAVINGS**♦
**BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $28,667.** Offer based on 2013 Sorento LX AT.

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**WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED**
*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

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The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2012/2013 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by January 2nd, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models on approved credit. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2013 Rio5 LX+ AT (RO753D) with a selling price of $18,572 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, $1,000 Everybody Wins savings, other fees and certain levies (including tire levies) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable)] financed at 0% APR for 36 months. 78 bi-weekly payments equal $225 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ♦Every eligible contestant will win (subject to correctly answering a skill-testing question) an Instant Win prize consisting of a discount in an amount from $1,000 to $10,000 towards the purchase or lease of any new 2012 or 2013 Kia vehicle. One Grand Prize consisting of a $25,000 cheque will be randomly awarded from among all eligible contestants at the conclusion of the contest. No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents with a valid driver's license over the age of majority. Odds of winning a particular discount vary by prize and by region. See kia.ca or your participating Kia dealer for complete contest rules. ≠≠Don't Pay until Spring™ on select new models (120-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing on all 2013 Sorento models. No interest will accrue during the first 90 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. ≠Bi-weekly finance payment (on approved credit) for new 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD)/2013 Sorento 3.5L LX V6 (SR75ED)/2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT (SP551D)/2012 Rondo LX with AC (RN750C) based on a selling price of $28,667/$31,267/$23,767/$22,767 is $157/$172/$130/$114 with an APR of 1.49%/1.49%/1.99%/0% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $8,053/$8,824/$6,606/$5,933 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Delivery and destination fees of $1,650, $1,000 Everybody Wins savings, $500/$500/$750/$1,000 loan savings, other fees and certain levies (including tire levies) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable) are included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. §Loan savings for 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD)/2013 Sorento 3.5L LX V6 (SR75ED)/2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT (SP551D)/2012 Rondo LX with AC (RN750C) is $500/$500/$750/$1,000 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit. Loan savings vary by model and trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Some conditions apply. ^^Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento 3.5L SX AWD (SR75XD)/2013 Sportage 2.0T SX with Navigation (SP759D)/2012 Rondo EX V6 Luxury (RN75BC) is $43,045/$39,145/$28,945 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650 and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, other fees and certain levies (including tire levies), variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Available at participating dealers. See dealer for full details. °The Bluetooth® wordmark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. ‡Trailer brakes must be equipped to achieve 3,500 lbs towing capacity. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Sorento 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Sportage 2.4L MPI 4-cyl (A/T)/2012 Rondo 2.4L MPI 4-cyl (A/T). These updated estimates are based on Transport Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada's *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia Canada is the official automotive sponsor of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD Canada). KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

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The Horses of McBride airs Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. ET/PT on CTV. HANDOUT

# Movie tells real-life rescue of horses from B.C. mountain

**The Horses of McBride.** Snowmobilers worked tirelessly for four days to save the animals

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Just before Christmas in 2008, Toni Jeck was faced with a tough decision. Armed with some hay and a shotgun, she was tasked with deciding the fate of two starving horses her snowmobiling brother had found trapped in two-metre deep snow on the side of Mount Renshaw, near McBride, B.C.

Despite finding the horses covered in bald patches and severely underweight, Jeck was convinced they could survive, if only she could get them off the mountain.

What followed was a four-day ordeal that warmed the hearts of Canadians as they watched a group of snowmobilers dig a trench more than a kilometre long, in minus 30 degree Celsius temperatures to free the horses, who — it was later discovered — had been abandoned there in the fall by a man on a hunting trip.

The story of the snowmobilers who could and the horses with the will to survive wasn't forgotten.

On Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. (ET/PT), CTV presents The Horses of McBride, starring Aidan Quinn, a TV movie based on the events of four years ago.

Actress Mackenzie Porter, who portrays Jeck in the movie, says she has trouble wrapping her head around the strength and willpower it must have taken to keep digging in sub-zero temperatures.

"I can't imagine it. Just the little amount of work we were doing to portray this story on film was exhausting. And I experienced nothing compared to what the Jeck family actually experienced," she says.

Filming for The Horses of McBride took place in the Kananaskis Valley, Alta., which mimicked some of the deep snow conditions the real rescuers faced. "I did a lot of shoveling, luckily I only had to do it when the camera was rolling" says Porter, laughing. "I got an amazing workout."

While the shoveling may have been tough for Porter, the work with the horses came naturally to the actress, who grew up on a ranch near Medicine Hat, Alta., and rode with her sister and dad.

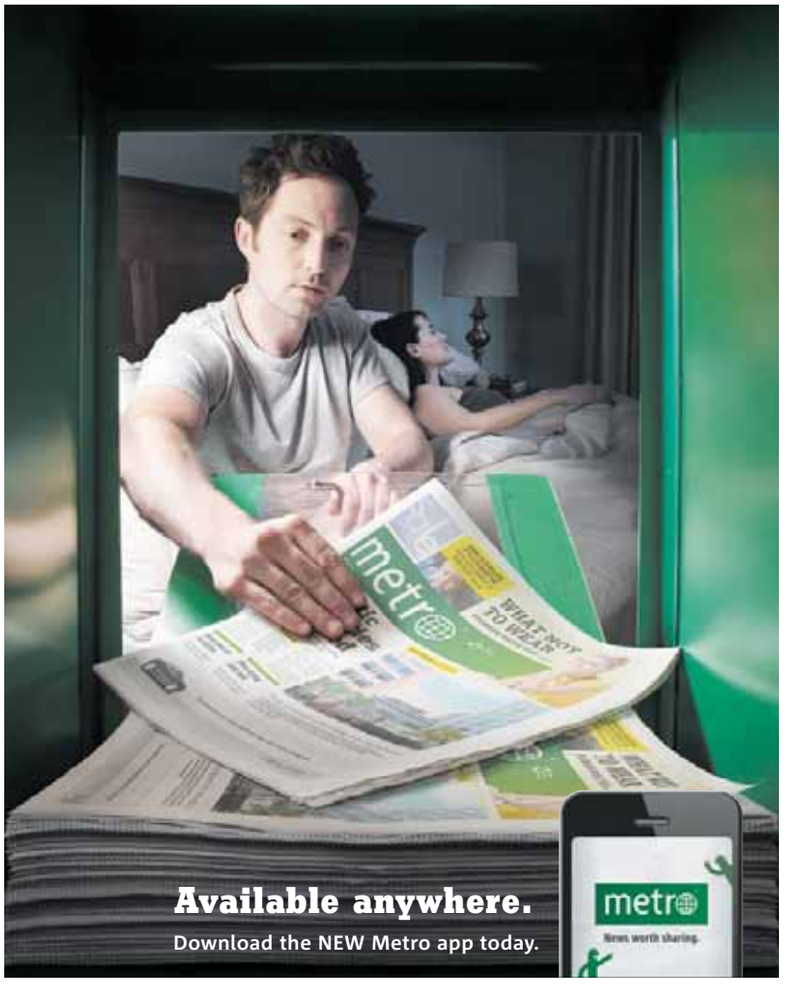
Aside from horsemanship skills, Porter was also able to exercise her acting abilities alongside seasoned veteran Quinn, whose past films include Legends of the Fall.

"I'm a huge fan of his so I was excited when I heard he was on board for this film. He was just really grounded," she says. "The first day I met him he invited me to dinner to rehearse and just build that relationship with him. He's just this amazing person."

**Rescued**

## *Horses healthy and happy*

The real horses — Belle and Sundance — are now healthy and happy living in adoptive homes. As such, the film crew had to find two equines that looked starving and unhealthy. Enter Lady and Slim, two emaciated horses from Alberta and British Columbia. As the filming went on, the wranglers involved were able to put weight back on these horses. Eventually, Lady was adopted by a couple who worked on the film, while Slim, once at a healthier weight, was returned to his original owner.



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TV picks

## All the Christmas specials you can handle: This week's TV picks

Chevy Chase stars as head of the Griswold family in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. HANDOUT

Back-to-back holiday specials Friday on Global start with Hoops & Yoyo Ruin Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, Hoops, Yoyo and their friend, Piddles, disrupt the time-space continuum after sneaking into Santa's sleigh.

Then, The Elf on the Shelf: An Elf's Story centres on an elf named Chippey who tries to help a young boy who is struggling to believe in the magic of Christmas. **(Global)**

Christmas movie classics abound on the dial Friday, with the Bing Crosby-Danny Kaye musical White Christmas sure to put you in a festive mood over on AMC.

The 1954 feel-good romp is chock full of everything magical about the season: a winter wonderland, infectious tunes and a bit of romance. Over on CBC, there's Miracle on 34th Street for anyone doubting Santa's existence.

An adwoman's lawyer boyfriend tries to prove that Macy's Santa Claus is the real thing.

Comic veteran Martin Short drops by his old New York stomping grounds when he hosts Saturday Night Live.

The musical performer is no slouch by the way; it's music icon Sir Paul McCartney. **(Global, NBC)**

Two animated classics abound with seasonal cheer and a little magic to inspire holiday grinches on Saturday.

Tykes both naughty and nice would do well to tune into Santa Claus is Comin' To Town over on CTV, where a mailman explains why Santa has whiskers, lives at the North Pole and brings presents once a year.

Meanwhile, The Legend of Frosty the Snowman unfolds over on YTV, where a new chapter in the saga revisits Frosty many years after he shouts out his first "Happy Birthday!" **(YTV)**

And then you have National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation on Sunday.

By turns cheesy, garish and grating, it's also sweetly sentimental and a fun guilty pleasure. Who doesn't find Christmas light electrocutions hilarious?

As head of the Griswold family, Chevy Chase offers plenty of pratfalls while Randy Quaid co-stars as a dickey-wearing country cousin with a little too much holiday spirit. **(CBC)**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Vancouver-born actress plays 'feisty, sexy and disarming' role in Motive

**Kristin Lehman.**
Procedural drama is told from the perspective of the killer and victim

STEPHEN ERAMO
scene@metronews.ca

Kristin Lehman is taking on the lead role in Motive. HANDOUT

She recently portrayed Gwen Eaton, a campaign adviser with a bone to pick with her secret lover in the critically lauded murder mystery The Killing. Now, Vancouver-born actress Kristin Lehman is taking on the lead role in CTV's new police procedural drama Motive.

Described as "feisty, sexy and disarming," her character of Angie Flynn is a divorced single mom and homicide detective who investigates cases that are told from the perspective of the killer as well as victim. This particular job came along at the ideal time for Lehman.

"I was very lucky to have done The Killing, and when we wrapped last April, I wanted to do more equally creatively satisfying work," notes the actress. "I also wanted to stay in Vancouver, largely because my little boy is in pre-school here and we really built our family's life around being in town for the series.

"So when I heard that Motive was a CTV show I was really excited about the possibility of doing another Canadian series. Then I read the material and fell in love with it. So I auditioned and, like every audition, I was convinced it wasn't what they [the producers] wanted," she jokes, "but happily it was what they wanted and here I am."

Despite being very different from her character, the actress felt an immediate bond with Angie.

"It's just an absolute delight to step into her shoes," says Lehman. "Angie 'lives' in me quite naturally, and thanks to our writers I get to delve into the complexities of what it must be like to have such a difficult job as well as be impulsive, instinctive, say what you feel and make mistakes."

At the time of this interview, Lehman and the rest of the Motive cast and crew were slightly over halfway through filming the show's first season.

"Aidan Devine guest-stars in this episode and he is an acting powerhouse," praises the actress. "I suppose I'm enjoying this one, in particular, because Angie has a really strong connection with the main protagonist. She decides to go against her superiors' wishes and follow her own hunches, so Aidan and I have gone toe-to-toe with some pretty intense and heavy scenes.

"At the end of the day you feel proud of all the effort you've put in as well as having worked opposite and shared a lot of mutual respect with another actor who processes the same way you do."

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# Marvel's new comic pits Young Avengers against one another

Avengers Arena has the young heroes square off against each other on an island run by the villain Arcade. MARVEL COMICS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**New series.** Despite obvious comparisons to Hunger Games, writer insists Avengers Arena is about the decisions we make

Marvel's younger heroes have dealt with life-threatening challenges before in the pages of Young Avengers from foes earthbound and beyond.

Now, in Avengers Arena, they're squaring off against each other, costume-clad pawns in a decidedly deadlier game they've no control over and no hope of escaping from in the series from Marvel Comics that came out Wednesday.

Writer Dennis Hopeless called the series — which sees 16 characters from Marvel Entertainment awake on an island run by the villain Arcade — as a chance to look at the individual characters, including Mettle, X-23 and Darkhawk, among others, and glean what type of heroes they could be, provided they survive. And if comparisons to The Hunger Games or the film Battle Royal or even William Golding's Lord of the Flies arise that's OK, he said, but ultimately the series is about individuals learning who they are and what they're willing to do.

"That's the interesting thing about the concept of fighting for your life or being in a death match; it gets down to the core of who a person is. They're making decisions that are going to shape who they are as adults," said Hopeless, whose writing credits at Marvel include Legion of Monsters and X-Men: Season One. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Quote**

**"That's the interesting thing about the concept of fighting for your life or being in a death match..."**

**Dennis Hopeless**
Marvel writer talking about what the new series is about.

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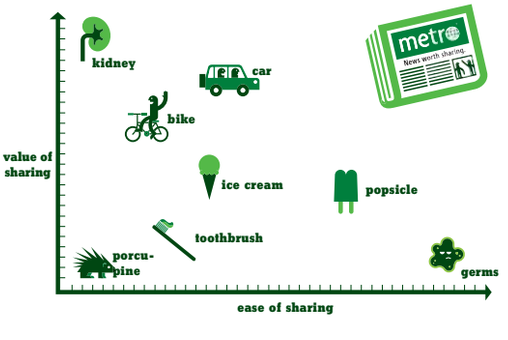

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# 2012 a diverse year for gamers

The video game universe in 2012 is a study in extremes. At one end, you have the old guard striving to produce mass-appeal blockbusters. At the other end, you have a thriving community of independent game developers scrambling to find an audience for their idiosyncratic visions. Can't we all just get along? Here are 10 games that managed to do both.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Dishonored

Arkane Studios' revenge drama combined a witty plot, crisp gameplay and an uncommonly distinctive milieu.

## Mass Effect 3

No 2012 game was more ambitious than BioWare's sweeping space opera. Yes, the ending was a little bumpy, but the fearless Commander Shepard's last journey across the cosmos provided dozens of thrilling moments.

## The Walking Dead

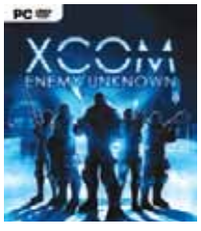
This moving adaptation of Robert Kirkman's comics dodged the predictable zombie bloodbath in favour of a finely tuned character study of two survivors.

## Journey

A nameless figure trudges across a desert toward a glowing light. Simple enough, but gorgeous visuals and haunting music translate into something that's almost profound.

## Borderlands 2

A gleeful mash-up of first-person shooting, role-playing and loot-collecting conventions gets bigger and badder, but what stuck with players most were the often hilarious encounters with the damaged citizens of Pandora.




## XCOM: Enemy Unknown

A strategy classic returns as the forces of Earth fight back against an extraterrestrial invasion.

## Fez

A two-dimensional dude named Gomez finds his world has suddenly burst into a third dimension in this gem from indie developer Phil Fish. As Gomez explores, the world of Fez continually deepens, opening up a series of mysteries.

## Spec Ops: The Line

This harrowing tale from German studio Yager Development transplants Apocalypse Now to a war-torn Dubai. It's a bracing critique, not just of war but of the rah-rah jingoism of contemporary military shooters.

## Assassin's Creed III

A centuries-old conspiracy takes root in Colonial America in this beautifully realized, refreshingly irreverent installment of Ubisoft's alternate history franchise.

## ZombiU

The best launch game for Nintendo's new console turns the Wii U's GamePad into an effective tool for finding and hunting down the undead.

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# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

**The Word**

## *30 Rock's Jenna films final tantrum*

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Much to 30 Rock fans' chagrin, Jane Krakowski, a.k.a. Jenna on the hit show, is getting a little break for the holiday season now that the sitcom is currently filming their last-ever episode.

"It's a very busy time right now between wrapping up 30 Rock and being a relatively new mom, and we're having Christmas dinner at our house this year for the first time," she says at an event for Bank of America, which raised money for Feeding America.

"Hopefully it'll be good; we wanted to sort of bring the joy of Christmas to our home, so our whole family is coming over. It should be a nice day and a nice way to sort of start a new chapter with 30 Rock ending."

"Yesterday we shot Jenna's last temper tantrum; it was fantastic. They told me to go as far as I wanted to go and the entire crew applauded when it was over because everyone knew it was the last time Jenna would be insulting people and throwing things.

"It was very fun — incredibly satisfying."

## Aubry in the clear over brawl with Martinez

Gabriel Aubry won't be facing criminal charges following his Thanksgiving day brawl with Olivier Martinez, the fiancé of ex-girlfriend Halle Berry, according to TMZ. In lieu of a formal hearing, the Los Angeles City Attorney is expected to hold an informal office meeting to discuss the altercation with Aubry, but the French-Canadian model won't have to worry about any further repercussions.

## Emotional Penn delivers heartbreaking insight into romantic past

Two years after his divorce from Robin Wright, Sean Penn is opening up about their marriage — and his entire romantic history. "There is no shame in saying that we all want to be loved by someone. As I look back over my life in romance, I don't feel I've ever had that," he tells Esquire magazine. And while he doesn't mention Wright by name, he does discuss their split. "When you get divorced, all the truths come out, you sit there and go, 'What the f— was I doing? What was I doing believing that this person was invested in this way?'" he says. "Which is a fantastically strong humiliation in the best sense."

**Quoted**

**"There is no shame in saying that we all want to be loved by someone."**
Sean Penn

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# Home for the holidays with singer Paul Brandt

**Christmas traditions.** Country superstar shares why this time of the year is special to him and his family

DAN CLAPSON
life@metronews.ca

Taking a break from promoting his new album, Just as I am, Paul Brandt — Canadian country music star, husband and father of two — shares some of his favourite things about the Christmas season.

He also offers a simple recipe that's sure to be a hit at your next holiday party.

**What's your favourite part about spending the holidays with your family?**
I'm often overwhelmed with gratitude for my family and our relationships during Christmas. Moments when we can just be together, celebrating, singing, eating and giving gifts to each other are so precious to me.

**Do you have any family traditions that take place on Christmas Day?**
A mandarin orange being in the toe of our Christmas stockings. The orange has to be eaten, and stockings emptied, before we can move on to the presents.

**Are you pretty hands-on in the kitchen while making the holiday dinner?**
I like being hands-on, but my mom and mother-in-law do the majority of the work for the big family dinners. I will happily jump in and carve the turkey... and maybe reserve a choice piece or two for myself as payment for my services.

Paul Brandt loves the holiday spirit. Fruit Cake? Not so much. SUBMITTED

**Do people ever request an impromptu mini-Christmas concert in December? Do you have a favourite holiday song to sing?**
I am often asked to sing around Christmas ... and I don't know why, but one of my favourites to sing has always been I'll Be Home For Christmas. Probably one of the most depressing Christmas songs ever, but I love crooning it.

**Fruitcake. Love it or hate it?**
Is "loathe" too strong a word?

**What is the one thing in your life that really makes the holidays complete?**
For me, the Christmas season is all about my faith. This faith perspective during the holidays reminds me to go out of my way to think about and help others, and when I do, I feel like the holidays really come together for me in a special and always very, very memorable way.

## Paul's Pickled Shrimp

When Paul Brandt has guests during the holiday season, he serves up this easy to make Pickled Shrimp appetizer.

**Ingredients**

- 1-2 bags cooked frozen shrimp
- onions, sliced thinly
- several bay leaves
- 1 cup olive oil
- 3/4 cup white vinegar
- 3 tbsp capers with juice
- 2 1/2 tsp celery deed
- 1 1/2 tsp salt
- 6 drops Tabasco sauce
- Juice of 2 lemons

**1.** Thaw shrimp under cool water and drain. Layer shrimp, onion and bay leaves in shallow dish. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over shrimp. Cover and chill 24 hours. **RECIPE BY PAUL BRANDT**

This is Paul Brandt's go-to recipe for holiday entertaining. DAN CLAPSON

**Liquid Assets**

## *Glass full of holiday spirit*

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
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Though it took a few bottles of bubbly and repeat viewings of A Charlie Brown Christmas, I've finally found my holiday spirit.

While I'm sure some of you will have an alternative to turkey as the star of your Xmas meal, the big bird is it for the majority of us, so this week I'm focusing on white wines to match.

Roast turkey never makes an appearance in the dining room alone. And it's all of the side dishes (like cranberry sauce, herbaceous stuffing and sweet potatoes) that have the greatest chance of clashing with your wine choice.

An off-dry white made with the peppery gewürztraminer grape or medium-dry riesling grape from any country is a great pick. So is one made with sauvignon blanc from France.

I'm partial to a lightly oaked chardonnay. The majority of white French Burgundy wines fit the bill, as do many chards from Australia, Chile, Canada and California.

The 2010 J. Lohr Riverstone Chardonnay ($18.95 - $22.99) used to be an oak bomb, but recent vintages have seen it transformed into a mouth full of tropical fruit with butterscotch aromatics and a subtle, turkey-friendly tone of wood.

Next week, the reds. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

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## The Nutcracker

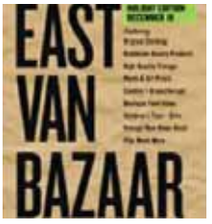
Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet presents the Nutcracker (December 14 to 16). With only three days to take in a holiday tradition with a twist, be sure to catch the latest choreographed creation courtesy of Galina Yordanova and Nina Menon with music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Take in the timeless tale, elaborate costuming all in a storybook-like setting with a decidedly Canadian angle audiences will love... right down to the hockey puck. For info visit: balletbc.com. 677 Davie Street.

## Blim annual holiday market

Back for another month and taking place at the Chinese Cultural Centre (50 Pender Street East) on Saturday, December 15, is Blim. It features more than 60 vendors featuring handmade pottery, accessories, gifts and jewellery well timed for Christmas shopping and last-minute gifts. This event is unique in that it helps support Vancouver's Chinatown and its burgeoning artistic community, a worthwhile weekend stop. For more info and complete vendor listings visit: kira-tokyo.com/blim_market.html.

## Opening soon: Beaucoup Bakery and Cafe

Just in time for the holidays (pending final inspections), Beaucoup Bakery (owned by Jackie Ellis) is almost ready to open the doors at to its quaint and sweet-smelling shop (2150 Fir Street). Open for breakfast and lunch, be sure to taste test one of everything on the delectable menu (éclairs, macarons, croissants, savoury baguette sandwiches) and more. Learn more here:beaucoupbakery.com.




## East Van Bazaar

On Sunday, December 16, break away from the crowded mall scene and head over to support a new community market taking place at the Waldorf Hotel (1489 Hastings Street East). Find truly unique artisan items – perfect for gifting over the holidays and take in some live music while you shop. When you've had enough retail therapy, catch a bit of 'Bad Santa', which will be on the big screen at the Tiki Bar. Visit: waldorfhotel.com for details.

## Love it events: First annual Christmas Ball

Pull out your party-dress and gear up for a night guaranteed to get you into the holiday spirit – on a massive boat, no less on December 15 at 415 W. Esplanade. The first Annual Love It Events party is set to sail at 6 p.m. until late aboard the Celebration on Water and will offer stunning 360-degree views of Vancouver's cityscape, a gourmet buffet, fully-stocked bar and plenty of live DJ music to keep you on your feet and busy networking. Visit: loveitevents.ca for more details.

## Coming up: John and Roy Holiday Special

Pencil this one into your agenda – it's the return of popular holiday special that sees a top-notch collection of performing artists take the stage at the intimate Vogue Theatre for one night only (December 21). Catch noteworthy acts courtesy of Vince Vaccaro, Wake Owl, Frazey Ford and Kim Churchill for a night that will definitely help you get your groove on. The show takes place at 918 Granville Street and doors open at 7p.m.

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Vancouver Giants goalie Payton Lee stares down Prince George Cougars forward Colin Jacobs during the only meeting of the season to date between the two teams, back on Nov. 11, at the Pacific Coliseum. CHRIS RELKE/VANCOUVER GIANTS

# Giants hope to toss bears and Cougars

**WHL.** Vancouver team puts on its teddy-bear toss Friday night

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

Imagine standing there, arms up in the air, teammates converging in celebration and thousands of tossed teddy bears cascading down around you.

It's a familiar scene from the growing hockey holiday tradition known as the teddy-bear toss, and the Vancouver Giants will carry on the custom Friday when they host the Prince George Cougars at the Pacific Coliseum.

**Quoted**

**"It's going to be a tough weekend for both teams, but we can't use that as an excuse because they're in the same boat as we are."**

Giants forward Dalton Sward

"In the room before the games, the guys are always calling that they're going to score the goal and they're going to get all the teddy bears out there," said Giants forward Dalton Sward.

"That first goal is pretty exciting when you see all the bears coming down on the ice."

The Giants would like to pump a few more goals home. The Western Hockey League team is now trying to snap a three-game losing streak that started immediately after concluding a seven-game skid.

As a result, the Giants occupy the bottom spot in the B.C. Division and the WHL Western Conference.

The Cougars are the fourth of five teams in the same division with a 10-17-1-3 record.

For all of the Giants' struggles this season, they have a chance to gain massive ground on the Cougars in the standings. The two teams play each other three times in three days — once in Vancouver and twice in Prince George.

Surely they'll be sick of each other by Sunday afternoon.

"Whenever you play a team back-to-back, or in this case three in a row, there's going to be some intensity built up as the games go on," said head coach Don Hay.

"They're really important games for both teams and I'm sure there's going to be some hard play between both teams."

The squads will make the roughly nine-hour bus trip to Prince George following Friday's game in Vancouver.

And, of course, there's a learning component to this.

"It's a good introduction for us into what it could be like in the playoffs when you go back-to-back," said Hay.

**MLS**

## *Player of the year Lee returns to Whitecaps*

Y.P. Lee — or should he be called Mr. Durable? — will return to the Vancouver Whitecaps next season, the Major League Soccer club announced Thursday.

Lee, 35, joined the Vancouver side last December and quickly established himself as the cornerstone of the Whitecaps back line. Oh, and he sold plenty of merchandise.

Lee was among the top-20 players on the list of top-selling MLS jerseys from March to September, according to the club.

But his value to the Whitecaps on the pitch was much greater. He started in 33 of the team's 34 regular-season games, playing the full match in each of his starts. He took only one game off — back on Sept. 1 against the L.A. Galaxy — at the behest of head coach Martin Rennie and was third on the team in assists with four.

His steady play earned him the Whitecaps' player of the year honour for 2012.

"The side of Y.P. that is also beneficial, but maybe not as obvious, is how he handles himself as a professional," said Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi.

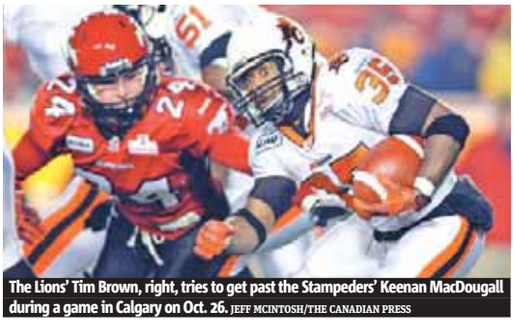
"He's a real team player and his pedigree was obvious to us.... We knew we were getting a real good player."

But with Lee set to turn 36 in April, the Whitecaps are cognizant of the fact that they can't over-play the South Korean international.

"We have to make sure we take into account his years and give him breaks," said Lenarduzzi.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

# Lions extend speedster Brown's contract



The Lions' Tim Brown, right, tries to get past the Stampeders' Keenan MacDougall during a game in Calgary on Oct. 26. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tim Brown will return kickoffs and punts next year for the B.C. Lions.

The CFL club announced Thursday morning that it had extended Brown's contract. Terms of the deal were not disclosed, but the extension is for another two years plus an option year.

Getting the deal before Christmas seemed to provide relief for Brown, who had two punt returns for touchdowns this past season.

"Just the worries, just wondering if the team wants you or if you're going to be back, I'm glad," said Brown in a phone interview.

"It didn't take long, it wasn't a long process at all and I was ... excited. I just want to be on this team and be a part of a winning organization."

Brown's skills as a returner grew more evident as the season continued. He finished the year with 914 punt return yards and 1,303 kickoff return yards.

He finished the season with 2,687 combined yards, which was second in the league behind the Toronto Argonauts' Chad Owens.

Despite such impressive numbers, the Lions punt-return game experienced its share of peaks and valleys, at least statistically, to begin the season.

In a Week 2 win over Hamilton, Brown averaged 26.2 punt return yards. Two weeks later, he was held to an average of 6.5 yards in the same category. CAM TUCKER/METRO

NFL

## *Former CFL star out for Seahawks*

Pete Carroll won't have one of his biggest defensive weapons Sunday when the Seattle Seahawks face the Buffalo Bills at Toronto's Rogers Centre.

Brandon Browner, the former Calgary Stampeders cornerback, will miss Buffalo's "home" game, the final contest of the inaugural Bills Toronto Series that began in 2008. He's currently serving a four-game suspension for violating the NFL's drug policy and is sidelined for the remainder of the regular season.

If the Seahawks (8-5) qualify for the playoffs, Browner would be eligible to return in time for the post-season. And Carroll says not having the six-foot-four, 221-pound Browner in the lineup creates a huge void in Seattle's secondary.

"He's really a first-line factor," the Seahawks head coach said during a conference call. "The size and savvy he brought makes him a real problem for opponents.

"There's not another six-foot-four guy you can plug in there so he's very rare."

The California native adjusted quickly to the Canadian game, being named a CFL all-star three times and helping Calgary win the 2008 Grey Cup.

Browner signed with Seattle after the 2010 season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brandon Browner GETTY IMAGES

# Reid in for a hard-hitting Christmas experience

**CFL.** B.C. Lions centre Angus Reid will attend the Christmas in Prison Celebration at a youth custody centre located in Burnaby

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

B.C. Lions centre Angus Reid, pictured during a game in November in Vancouver, is attending the Christmas in Prison Celebration on Friday at the Burnaby Youth Custody Services Centre. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Angus Reid isn't easily intimidated, no matter the challenge.

But his visit to the Burnaby Youth Custody Services Centre for the Christmas in Prison Celebration is an exception. It's a "special night," the B.C. Lions veteran centre said, but one that requires sensitivity and honesty.

"I don't know what they're going through. It's hard for me to relate and it's hard for me to try," said Reid, who tweeted Thursday this would be his sixth year attending.

"You can't fake it and give them a rah-rah speech that doesn't relate to them. You want to do the best you can at just letting them know you came because you care about them. There are people that care."

Friday marks the 28th year that Evelyn Florendo, a retired employee of the B.C. Labour Relations Board, and a group of volunteers will put on the dinner.

Florendo started the dinner in 1984 after reading in the newspapers about youth attempting suicide in the facility.

She felt overwhelming compassion and wanted to do something for them during the holiday season.

That first year, Florendo used a month's worth of her own salary to put on the dinner, which was served in a hallway at the facility.

The boys and girls who will attend range in age from 12 to 17, and their crimes range from misdemeanours to serious felonies.

"I love those kids," said Florendo.

"I cannot quit.... If you see them, you will really be heartbroken. They are very handsome kids, beautiful girls. That's probably the reason why I cannot quit."

It's hard to determine just how far a yearly visit can go toward transforming a gymnasium full of youth — who may have experienced abuse when younger — into contributing members of society.

But there is a chance.

Reid recalls an experience "about three years ago" in which a youth approached him on the outside. That youth had been part of a Christmas dinner inside the facility when Reid had attended as a guest the year before.

"They had gotten a job ... and were trying to save money and go to school," said Reid.

"It was just nice to see somebody so proud to come up to me, with a smile, and saying, 'I'm never going back, whatever it takes.'

"And it's not because of me. But it was just nice to see someone in the worst-case scenario they can be in and then a year later, so proud of themselves for trying to turn their life around."

**Quoted**

**"You want to do the best you can at just letting them know you came because you care about them. There are people that care."** B.C. Lions centre Angus Reid

# Swimming record is no small feat

Noemie Thomas reacts after posting a Canadian-record time at the short-course world championships. IAN MACNICOL/SWIMMING CANADA

Noemie Thomas is only five-foot-four — with her shoes on — but she swims tall.

This 16-year-old from Richmond just broke the Canadian record in the women's 50-metre butterfly at the short-course world championships in Istanbul, Turkey.

"In swimming and in other sports there are general rules about how tall you should be, but there still are exceptions," Thomas said after her record-breaking time of 25.76 seconds in Thursday's semifinal heats.

So far, she's proving to be one of those exceptions. In breaking the three-year-old national record, Thomas bettered by almost a quarter of a second her personal-best time set just a month ago at the Canada Cup in Toronto. She qualified fourth for Friday's final.

**Numbers**

**25.76**

Noemie Thomas's record-breaking time in seconds in Thursday's 50-metre butterfly semifinal heats at the short-course world swimming championships in Turkey.

In sprint butterfly, her competitors are often in the six-foot range.

"Lining up behind the blocks, I'm usually looking at people's shoulders," she said.

That changes once she dives in.

"She looks big in the water," said Tom Johnson, coach of the national short-course team. "She's a really, really powerful swimmer and she's getting better technically."

Johnson was also impressed with Thomas's maturity and ability to handle the pressure of a big event given she only started training at the national swim centre in September.

Thomas only decided to focus on swimming full-time a few years ago. Before that she was a serious ballerina and only swam in the summers. For a chance to be really competitive, though, she had to make a choice.

"It was a hard decision, but I decided for swimming," Thomas said. "It seems to be working out pretty well for me."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL

## Lockout sides meet face-to-face

Two days of talks between the NHL, the players' association, and federal mediators still haven't provided any answers for how to end the lockout.

Representatives from the fighting sides made it into the same room with a federal mediator Thursday. They just didn't make any noticeable progress. After a failed day Wednesday when the parties on either end of the hockey labour dispute never met with each other, lawyers from each group spoke face-to-face Thursday.

They appear no closer to a deal to save the season.

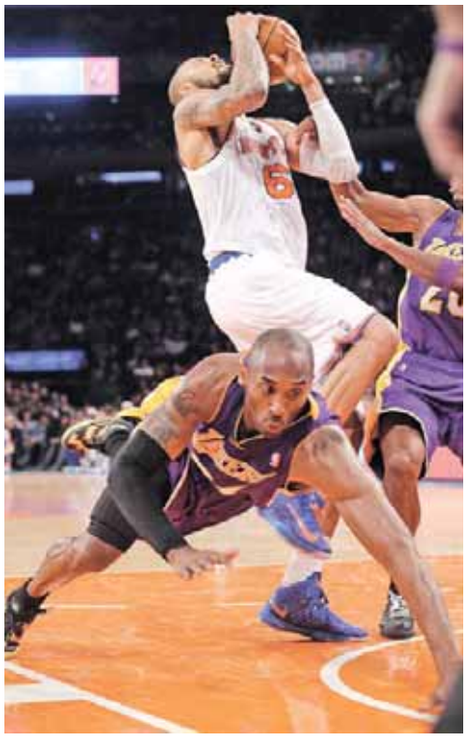
U.S. President Barack Obama addressed the stalemate in an interview Thursday with WCCO-TV in Minneapolis.

"My message to owners and to players is, 'You guys make a lot of money and you make a lot of money on the backs of fans, so do right by your fans. You can figure out how to spread out a bunch of revenue that you're bringing in, but do right by the people who support you,'" Obama said.

Players' association special counsel Steve Fehr, who met with league lead counsel Bob Batterman on Thursday, said the sides intend to talk Friday either in person or by phone.

"I expect the mediators will continue to be involved," Fehr wrote in an email.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Taking one for the team

Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers is tripped up in the fourth quarter of Thursday's game against the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden. Bryant scored 31 points and 10 rebounds in a losing effort as the Lakers fell 116-107. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

# Reason to cheer for prolonged lockout

**World juniors.** Canadian squad should be most talented in years, assuming NHL labour dispute continues

Nathan MacKinnon, left, from Cole Harbour, N.S., and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, from Burnaby, chat at selection camp in Calgary on Wednesday. Both MacKinnon and his Halifax Mooseheads teammate Jonathan Drouin cracked the Canadian roster as 17-year-olds. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Mark Scheifele, Jonathan Huberdeau. Not bad for a first line. With Dougie Hamilton and Morgan Rielly as the top defence pairing. And probably Malcolm Subban in net.

Coach Steve Spott has picked his talent-loaded team — the 23 players who will represent Canada at the world junior hockey championship in Russia — after a bullet-quick training camp.

Now he can only hope he can keep the team together.

The NHL lockout — or, the possibility that the lockout could end before the tournament is over — haunts him.

How worried is he? "On a scale of one to 10," he said. "Fourteen."

There's a very real risk that one, two or more of his players could be called to their NHL camp if the lockout ends. If they're called before midnight Dec. 25 — the deadline for handing in his roster — they can be replaced. If they're called after, Team Canada would play undermanned.

And it's the team's best players — Nugent-Hopkins (by Edmonton), Huberdeau (by Florida), Hamilton (by Boston) — who are the highest risk of being called back.

Some teams have pledged to Hockey Canada to allow their players to stay through the end of the tournament: The Leafs (Rielly), the Blues (Jordan Binnington, Ty Rattie), the Blue Jackets (Boone Jenner) and Penguins (Scott Harrington).

Scheifele has told the media that the Jets would let him stay, but the Jets have not told Hockey Canada that.

It may come down to public pressure for teams — especially Canadian teams — to leave their players in the tournament.

"We know exactly what we're dealing with," said Scott Salmond, Hockey Canada's senior director of operations.

"I would say it's just like an injury. If someone gets injured between the time we leave for Europe and the time the tournament starts, we can replace those guys. Unfortunately, obviously, it's going to be some of our best players. We've got great depth. We'll just have to call other guys in and some other guys will have to step up."

Plan B is to call back players from among the eight released Thursday evening: Goalie Laurent Brossoit, defencemen Frankie Corrado, Ryan Sproul and Matt Dumba and forwards Daniel Catenacci, Tom Wilson, Mark McNeill and Hunter Shinkaruk.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**Quoted**

**"If that was to happen, we have a plan in place to be able to deal with it."**

**Hockey Canada senior director of operations Scott Salmond** on the possibility of losing some top Canadians in the event of a resolution to the NHL lockout

**Sweet 17**

**Halifax Mooseheads duo Nathan MacKinnon and Jonathan Drouin have cracked the Canadian roster as 17-year-olds.**

- The inclusion of the pair is significant because the NHL lockout made all the country's top 19-year-old talent available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**MLB**

## Hamilton heading west to Rangers' California rivals

Josh Hamilton is heading to the Los Angeles Angels, lured with a $125-million US, five-year contract that steps up the migration of high-profile stars to Southern California..

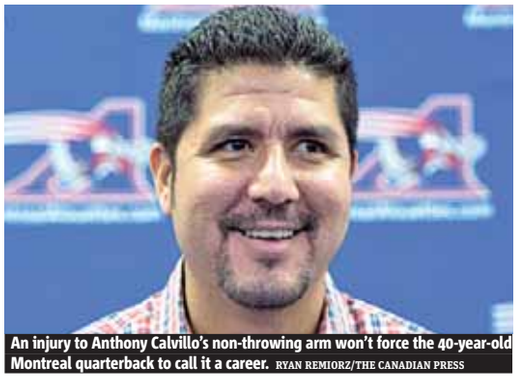
The Angels persuaded the free-agent outfielder to leave the Texas Rangers with their third big-money off-season signing in as many years. Hamilton heads to Anaheim after first baseman Albert Pujols came west for $240 million last December along with pitcher C.J. Wilson — Hamilton's Texas teammate — for $77.5 million.

General manager Jerry Dipoto had said Wednesday that he didn't think a major move was "imminent."

But owner Arte Moreno pulled off another coup by getting Hamilton. The 2010 AL MVP, Pujols and AL rookie of the year Mike Trout combined for 103 home runs and 316 RBIs last season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Passion compels Calvillo to continue career with Als



An injury to Anthony Calvillo's non-throwing arm won't force the 40-year-old Montreal quarterback to call it a career. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anthony Calvillo says he feels great and he's playing well, so why retire even if he is 40 years old?

The Montreal Alouettes quarterback who was named a CFL all-star for a fifth time this season announced Thursday that he will return for a 20th season. He signed a contract for a year plus an option year, and will make another decision on whether to continue after the 2013 campaign.

"I have to evaluate every season if I still enjoy what I do, and I do," Calvillo said. "I strongly believe that this organization is going to continue to have success and I want to be part of that."

The league's all-time passing leader had his left, non-throwing arm in a sling from surgery last Friday to repair a torn labrum that he played with since the third game of the season.

Despite the injury, which forced him to change his throwing motion, Calvillo completed 333 passes for 5,082 yards and 31 touchdowns in 17 starts.

It was his seventh season of more than 5,000 passing yards.

Calvillo said the surgery went well and he will need four months of rehab work to be back to normal. The sling will come off in three weeks, followed by two months of work to restore full range of motion in the arm.

The Los Angeles native, entering his 16th season with the Alouettes, holds league records of 5,777 completions, 449 touchdown passes and 78,494 passing yards. He should pass the 80,000-yard mark early in the 2013 campaign if his health holds up.

Two seasons ago, he blew past the old career passing yards record that had been set over 23 seasons by Damon Allen, who played until he was 44.

"There's pride in myself to be the best quarterback I can be," said Calvillo. "There's a level I'm trying to stay at."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Quoted**

**"Going on 20 years, at one point, you're supposed to retire and that day will come. But today's not it. I have too much passion and love for this organization."**

**Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo**

## Horoscopes

### Aries
**March 21 - April 20**
If you can no longer see the point of something then there is no reason why you should go on wasting time on it. Turn your attention towards more interesting things today, such as your social life and travel.

### Taurus
**April 21 - May 21**
No matter how many times you have bet against the odds and won in the past, you are unlikely to fare so well today. Err on the side of caution. Both in your personal life and in your work, you must play it safe.

### Gemini
**May 22 - June 21**
You seem reluctant to commit yourself to a plan or project that on most other occasions would appeal to you. Most likely your sixth sense is trying to tell you that it's too dangerous to get involved. Heed its warning.

### Cancer
**June 22 - July 23**
There is a danger that you will push yourself too hard and burn yourself out. Save as much of your physical, mental and emotional energy as you can today and over the weekend. You'll need it early next week.

### Leo
**July 24 - Aug. 23**
What would you do if you knew that you could not fail? Cosmic activity in the sympathetic sign of Sagittarius indicates that your dreams really will come true — if you have the courage to reach for them.

### Virgo
**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**
Your main task over the next 24 hours is to find a positive outlet for all the emotional energy that has been building up inside you. Activities of a physical nature are an especially good way to let off steam.

### Libra
**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**
It never hurts to let those you love know how much you care for them and you will get the chance to do that today and over the weekend. What you give out now will come back to you later many times over.

### Scorpio
**Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22**
The planets suggest the efforts you make now will pay off in a big way around the middle part of next week. The powers that be have not forgotten you, but it doesn't hurt to remind them what you can do.

### Sagittarius
**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**
You will fight with all your powers to get what it is you desire today and you won't take no for an answer. Your rivals will sense how serious you are and, for the most part, move aside rather than take you on.

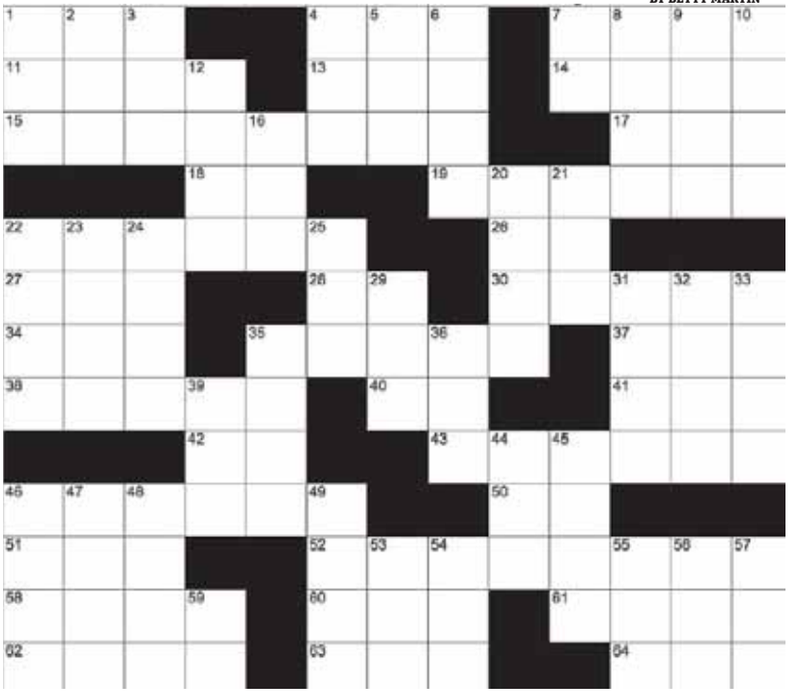
### Capricorn
**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**
Your career plans are more likely to succeed if you keep your aims to yourself, at least for the next few days. The more you let rivals know what it is you desire, the easier you make it for them to deny you.

### Aquarius
**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**
You may have a different outlook and a different way of doing things to a colleague but ultimately you share the same goal, so find ways you can work together. Your differences can make you both stronger and more effective.

### Pisces
**Feb. 20 - March 20**
What happens today and over the weekend will open your eyes to new possibilities and make you realize how much more is possible. Banish negative thinking in all its forms — there's no need for it at all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword

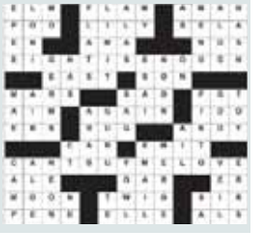
BY BETTY MARTIN



**Across**
1. When Paris sizzles
4. Provoke
7. Red Muppet
11. Peeples and Vardalos
13. Actress — Dawn Chong
14. — to Avonlea
15. Trigger
17. The Plastic — Band
18. Sha – Na
19. Decent
22. Scope
26. – lieu of
27. Summer attire
28. – Elsewhere
30. Geeks
34. Ortiz of Ugly Betty
35. Garden pest
37. Important time
38. Elegant shop
40. Modern Family actor
41. Ziering of Beverly Hills, 90210
42. Providence state
43. Citrus fruit
46. Anderson of Baywatch
50. Plural suffix
51. Exist
52. Like some brides
58. Irritate
60. Cartoon shriek
61. Lake near Buffao
62. Darrin's boss on Bewitched
63. Trash bag closer
64. Right angle shape

**Down**
1. Disney doe
2. Spasm
3. Snack
4. Writer Levin
5. Alley rodent
6. Hang on to
7. Night time drama starring Noah Wyle
8. Noose
9. Lion's locks
10. Smell
12. Without
16. Moving vehicle
20. Coat that gets tossed
21. — Life to Live
22. Airport postings, for short
23. Princess warrior of TV
24. Shade of blue
25. Recipe abbr.
29. What's — use?
31. Harness strap
32. Trail
33. Lucid
35. Shrub
36. Wedding words
39. Mineral
44. Matter, in law
45. Tennis great Arthur
46. Actor's quest
47. Diva's solo
48. Thaw
49. Promote, as criminal intent
53. Flower garland
54. Hawaiian instrument (abbr.)
55. Tick off
56. Zip
57. Harden
59. Star of CHiPs (init.)

### Yesterday's Crossword



### What's online

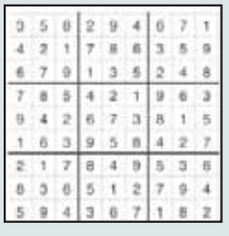
See today's answers metronews.ca/answers.

## Sudoku

**How to play**
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | | 8 | | | | 3 | |
| | | | 7 | | | | 8 | 4 |
| | | 4 | 6 | | 9 | 5 | 2 | |
| | 5 | 7 | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | 1 | 9 | |
| | 1 | 2 | 5 | | 3 | 7 | | |
| 7 | 8 | | | | 4 | | | |
| | 6 | | | | 1 | | 5 | |

### Yesterday's Sudoku



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|---|---|
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### USA Sample Airfares

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now **$268**

| | |
|---|---|
| Los Angeles | was $~~359~~ now $309 |
| Phoenix | was $~~407~~ now $357 |
| New York | was $~~515~~ now $465 |
| Maui | was $~~621~~ now $571 |

### International Sample Airfares

**Cancun**
was $~~569~~
now **$469**

| | |
|---|---|
| Costa Rica | was $~~789~~ now $689 |
| Hong Kong | was $~~1049~~ now $949 |
| London | was $~~1204~~ now $1104 |
| Sydney | was $~~1349~~ now $1249 |

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